

The GRAiNITA calorimeter

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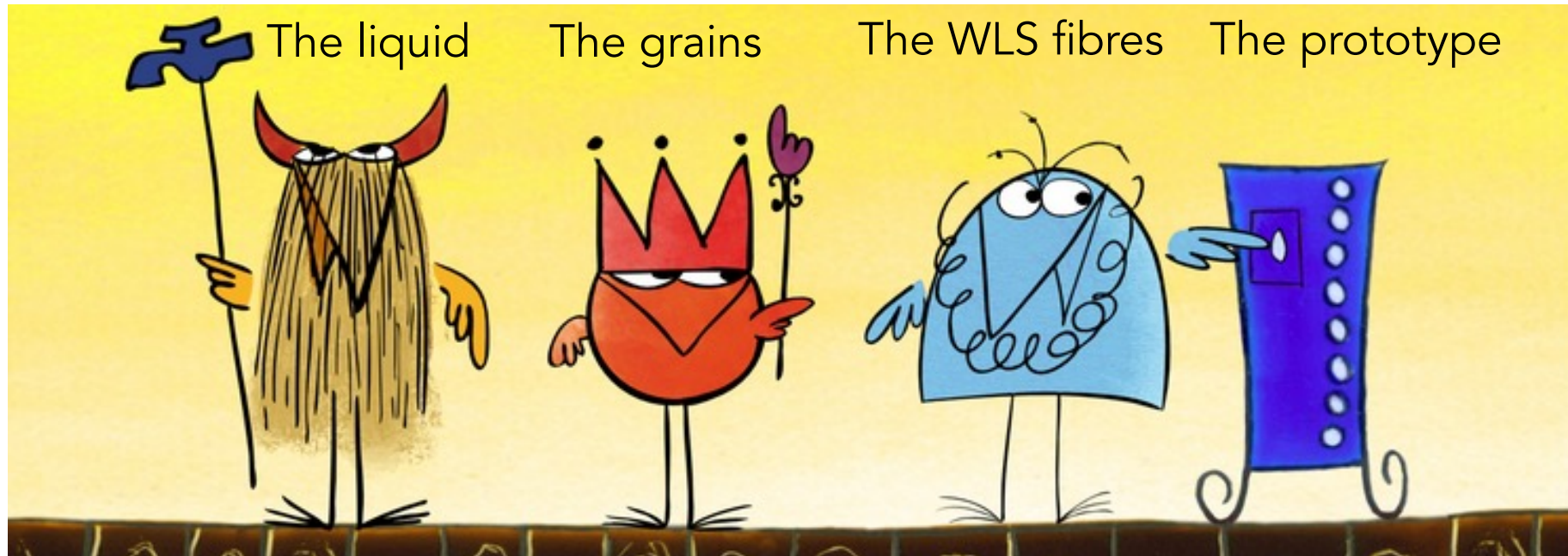
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⁴ Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University Ukraine



- The concept, the small prototype and the very first measurements
- First test beam results
- A word on pulse shape discrimination

The concept and the small prototype and the very first results



Ethylene glycol

- refractive index ~ 1.4
- LST FastFloat
- density ~ 2.85 g/cm³
- refractive index ~ 1.5

ZnWO_4

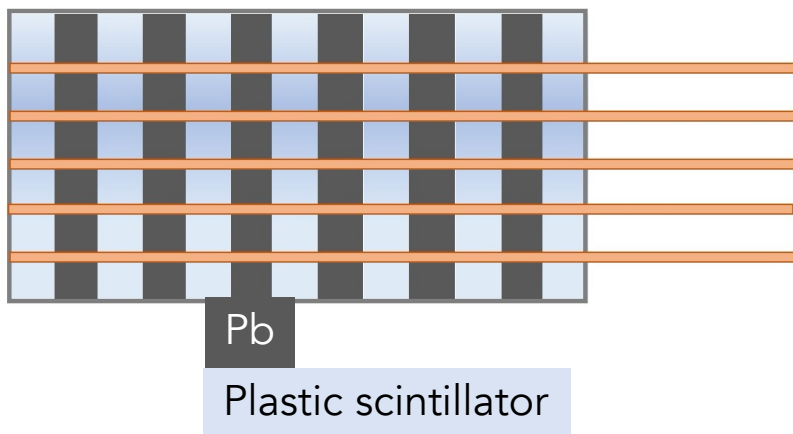
O2-(200) from
Kuraray

The overall idea (in a nutshell)

Typical sampling calorimeters:

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} \sim \frac{10\% - 15\%}{\sqrt{E}}$$

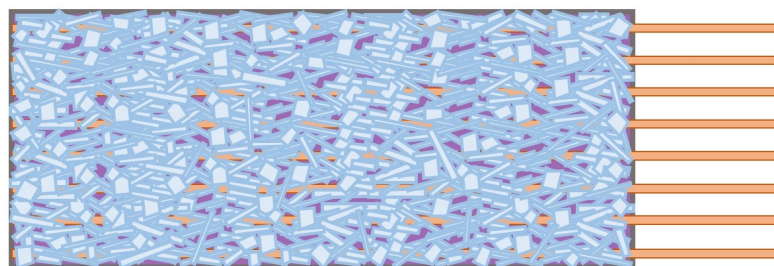
Shashlyk-type calorimeter



Requirements:

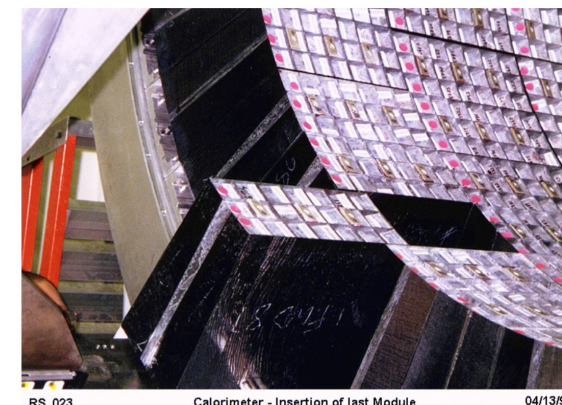
- Good energy resolution
- fine sampling
- scintillation light locally contained

GRAiNITA



Crystal calorimeters :

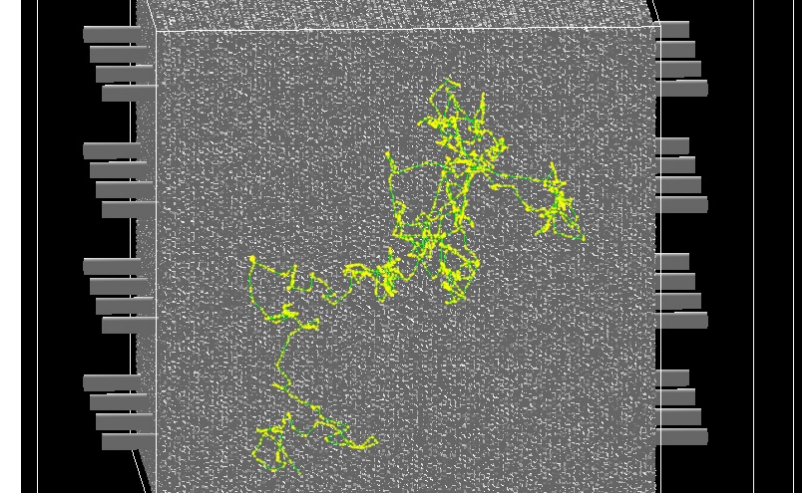
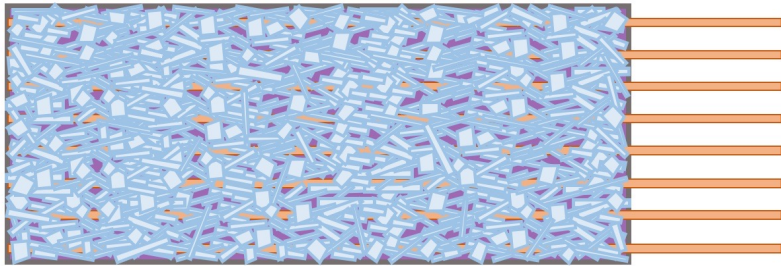
$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} \sim \frac{1\% - 2\%}{\sqrt{E}}$$



Main components :

- Scintillating grains
- WLS fibers
- Heavy liquid

GRAiNITA



Light is produced in the grains and collected by the WLS fibres

Choice of grains driven by number of photo-electrons and the production technique

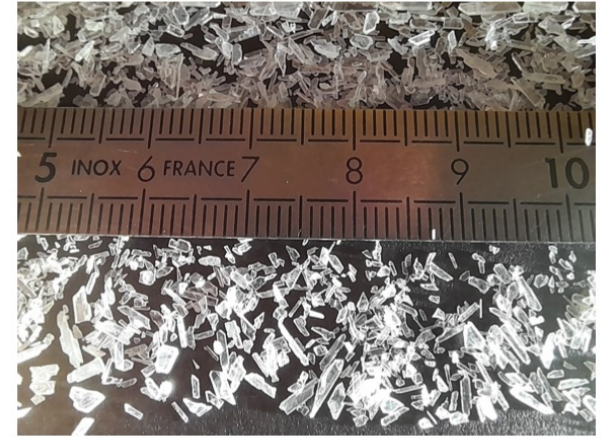
The heavy liquid:

- eases the light collection by the WLS (index of HL as close as possible to the index of grains)
- increases the density and thus reduce the size of the calorimeter

ZnWO_4 has been identified as a promising candidate

	BGO	ZnWO_4
Effective Z	74	61
Density (g/cm^3)	7.13	7.87
Refractive index	2.15	2.0 - 2.3
Light yield (photons/MeV)	~ 9000	~ 9000
Peak emission wavelength (nm)	480	480
Decay time (μs)	0.3	20
Radiation length (cm)	1.12	1.20
Molière radius (cm)	2.26	1.98

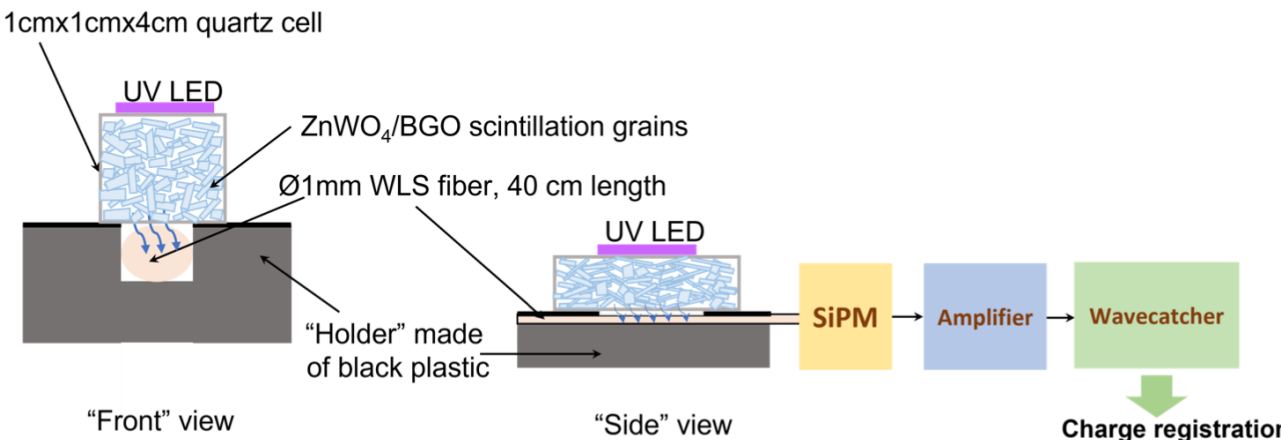
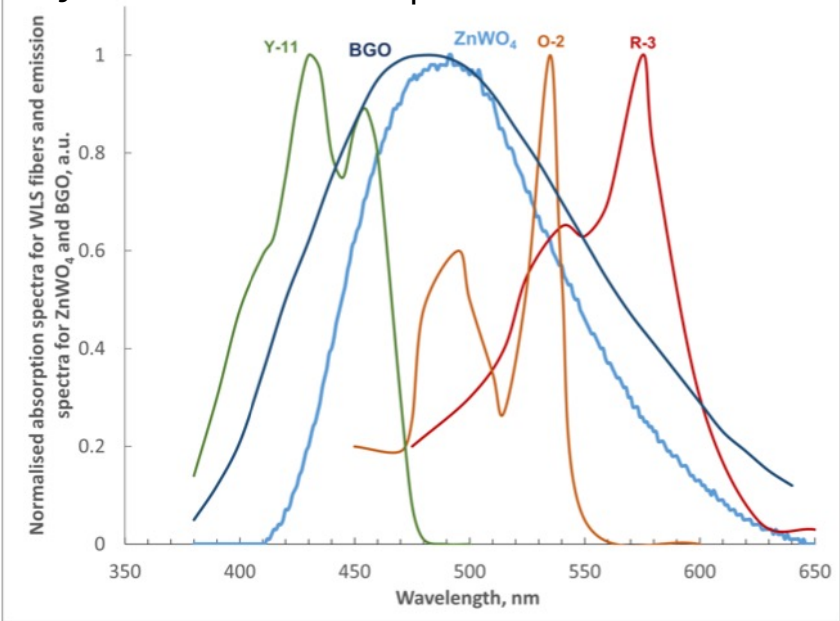
Scintillation decay time ok for
FCC-ee (~ 50 kHz at the Z pole).



ISMA: dedicated R&D to produce ZnWO_4 grains with the flux method (cost effective). Production technique mastered.

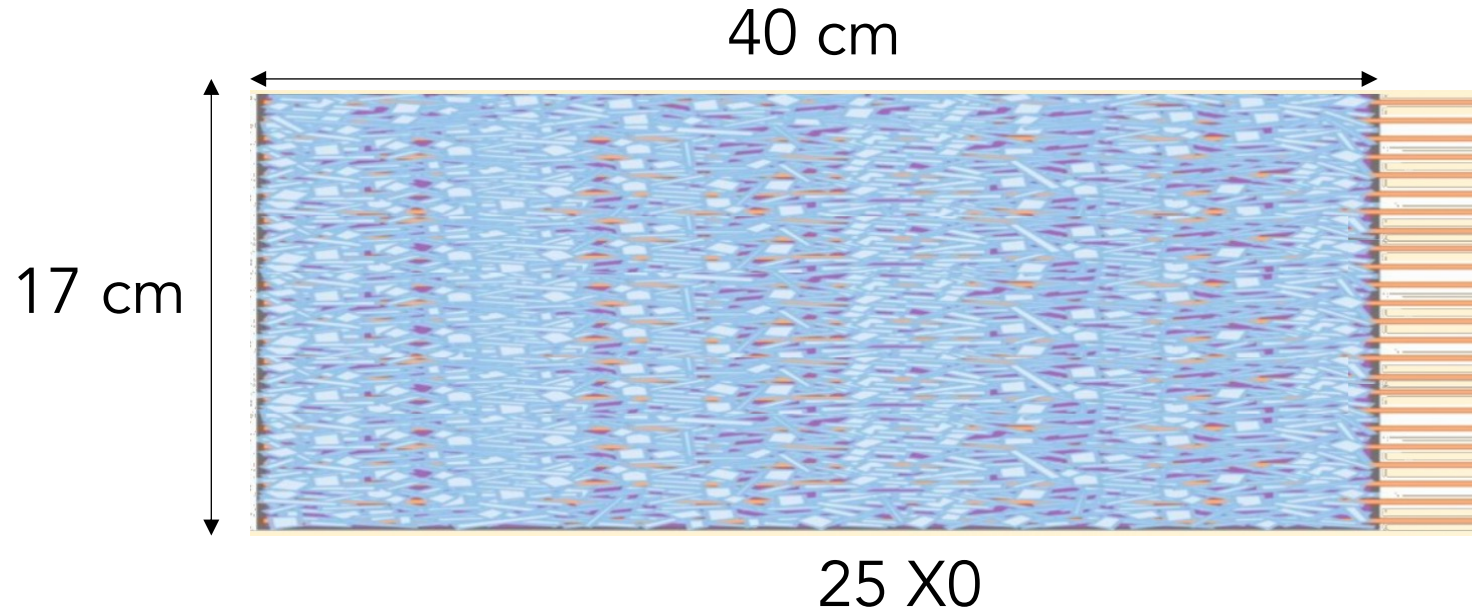
~ 1 kg of high-quality ZnWO_4 grains produced

Absorption spectra for Y-11, O-2 and R-3 fibers from Kuraray and emission spectra for BGO and ZnWO₄



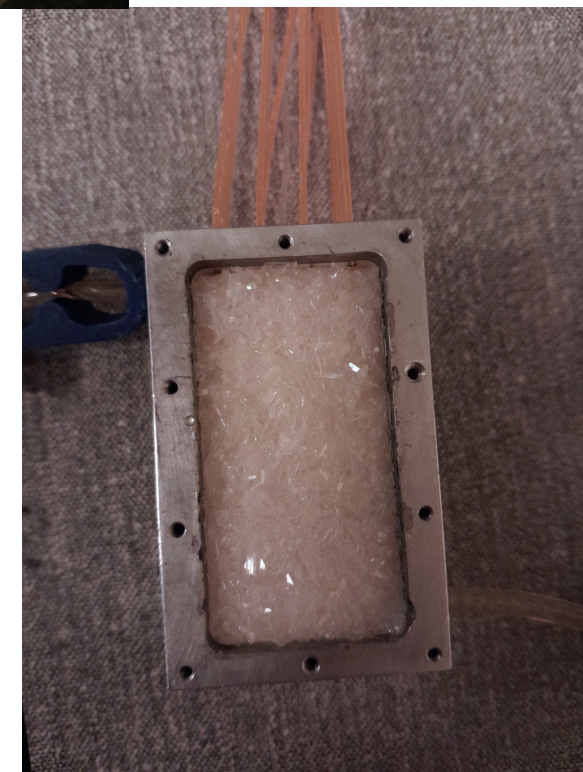
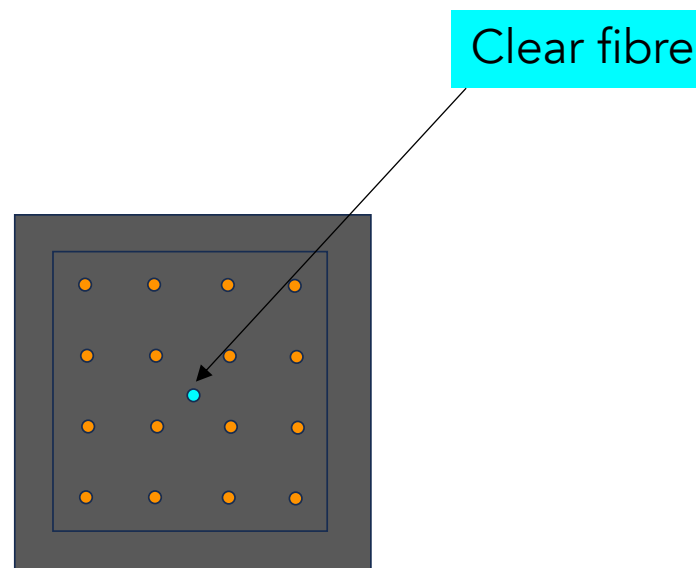
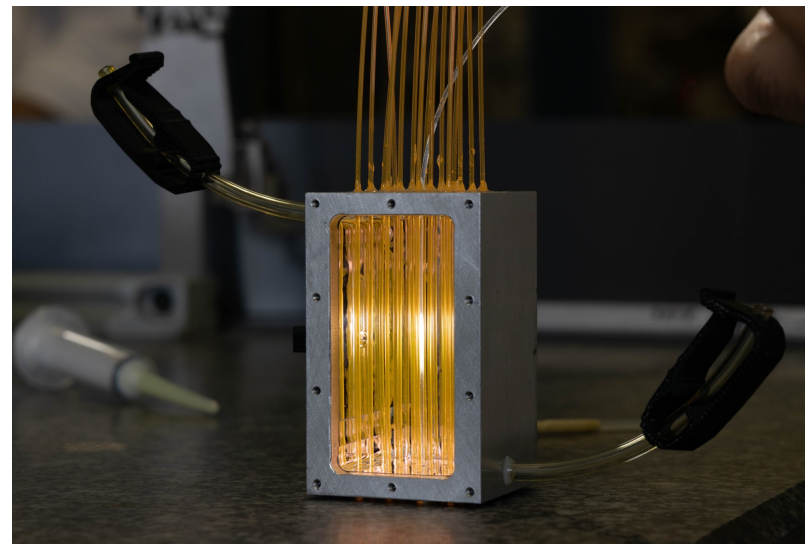
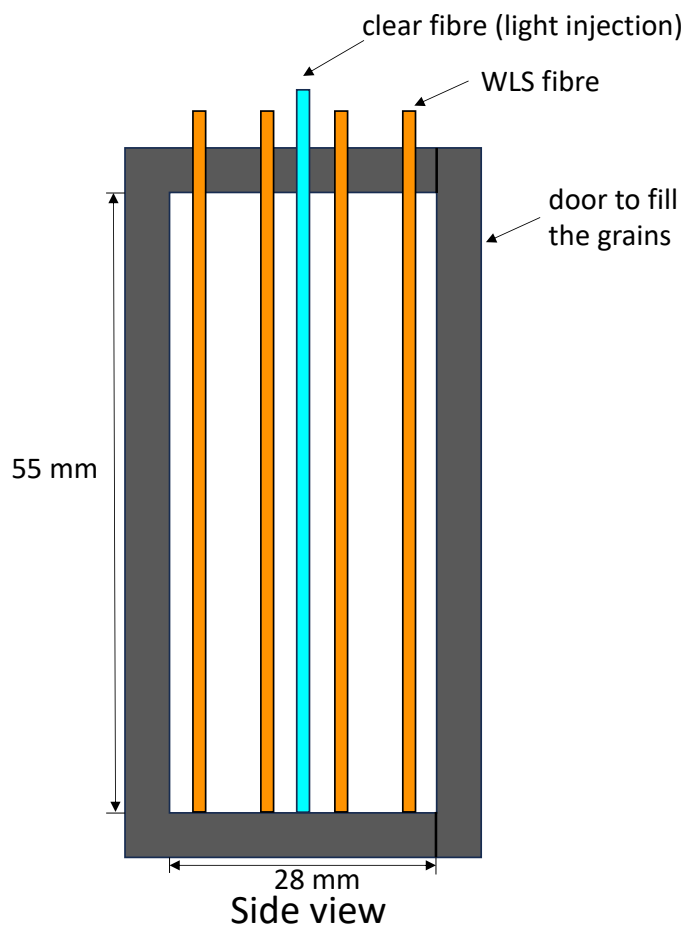
Fiber type	Relative efficiency (%)		
	ZnWO ₄ grains (~ 9 mm)	BGO grains (~ 9 mm)	
O-3(300)	100	100	ref
O-2(200)	104	104	preferred choice
Y-11(200)	44	98	
R-3(100)	60	n.a.	

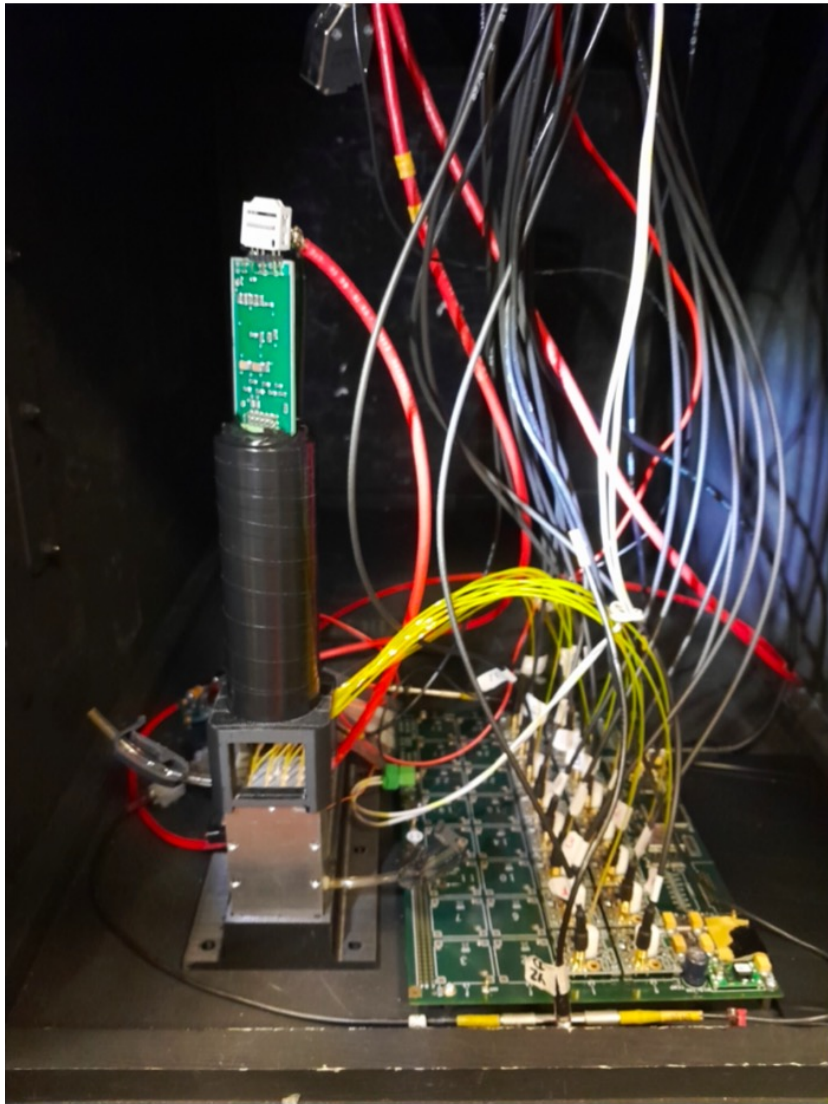
Goal: scale one module to contain the shower of a 25 GeV photon



~50 kg of grains

But it started small





16 WLS fibres couples to a SiPM mounted on a PCB for amplification.

Signals are digitized at 3.2 GHz with a Wave Catcher.

The photo-electrons are identified and counted in a $25 \mu\text{s}$ window.

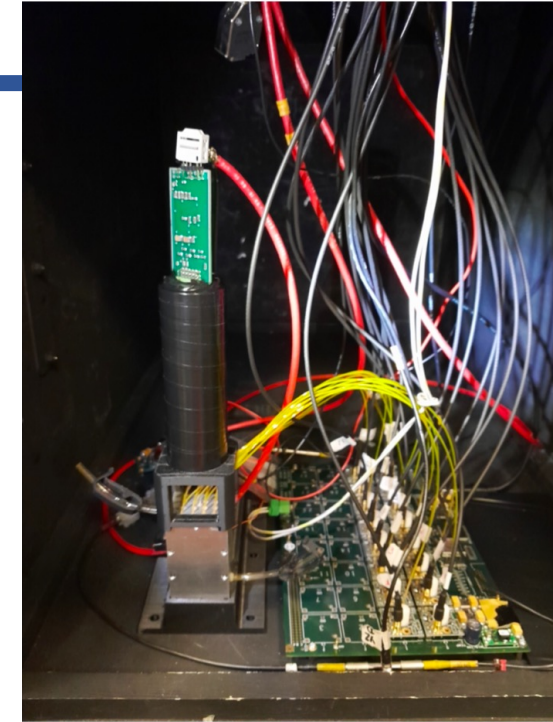
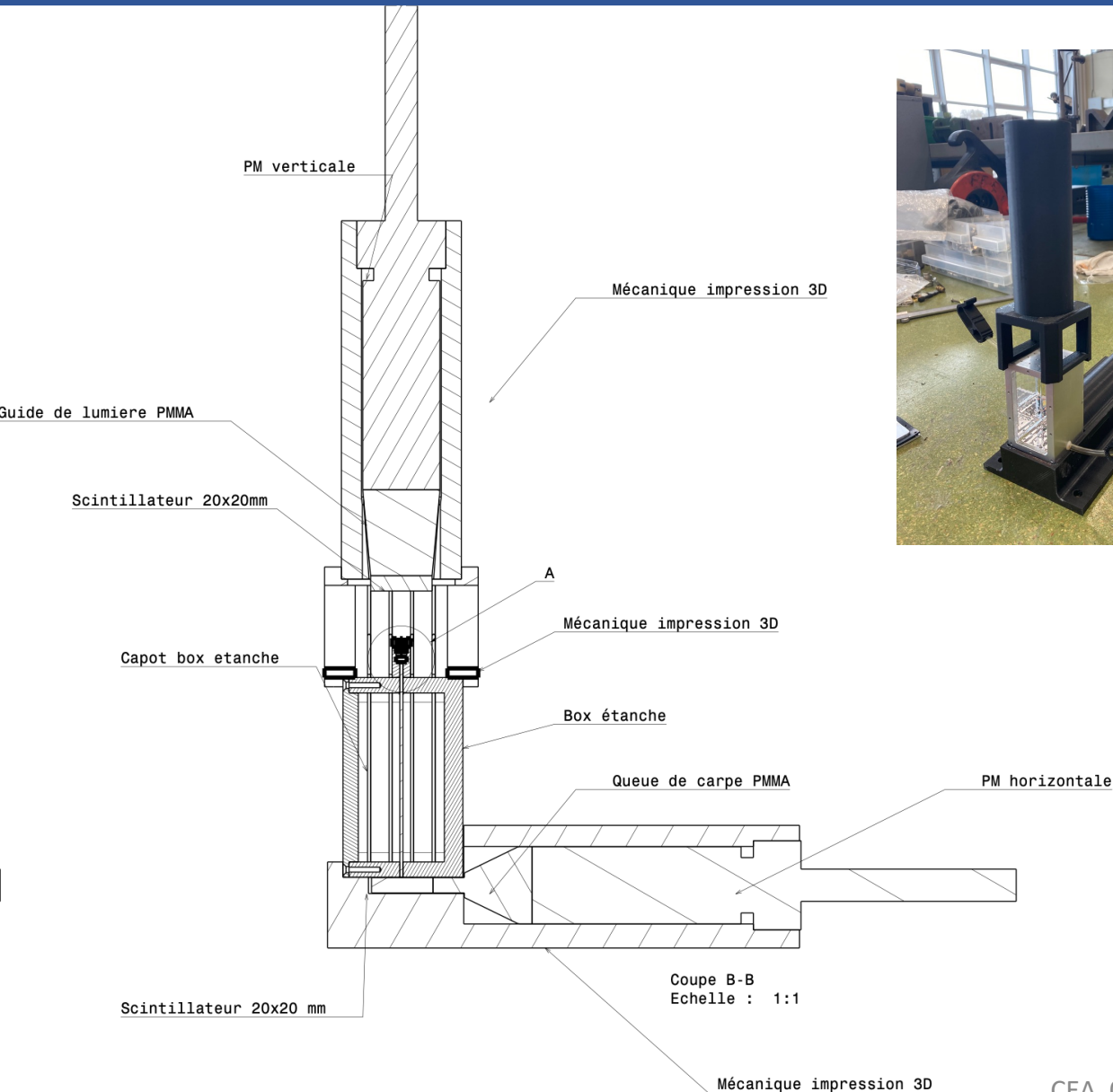
First measurements

stochastic
(dom. at high E)

calib.,
non uniformity

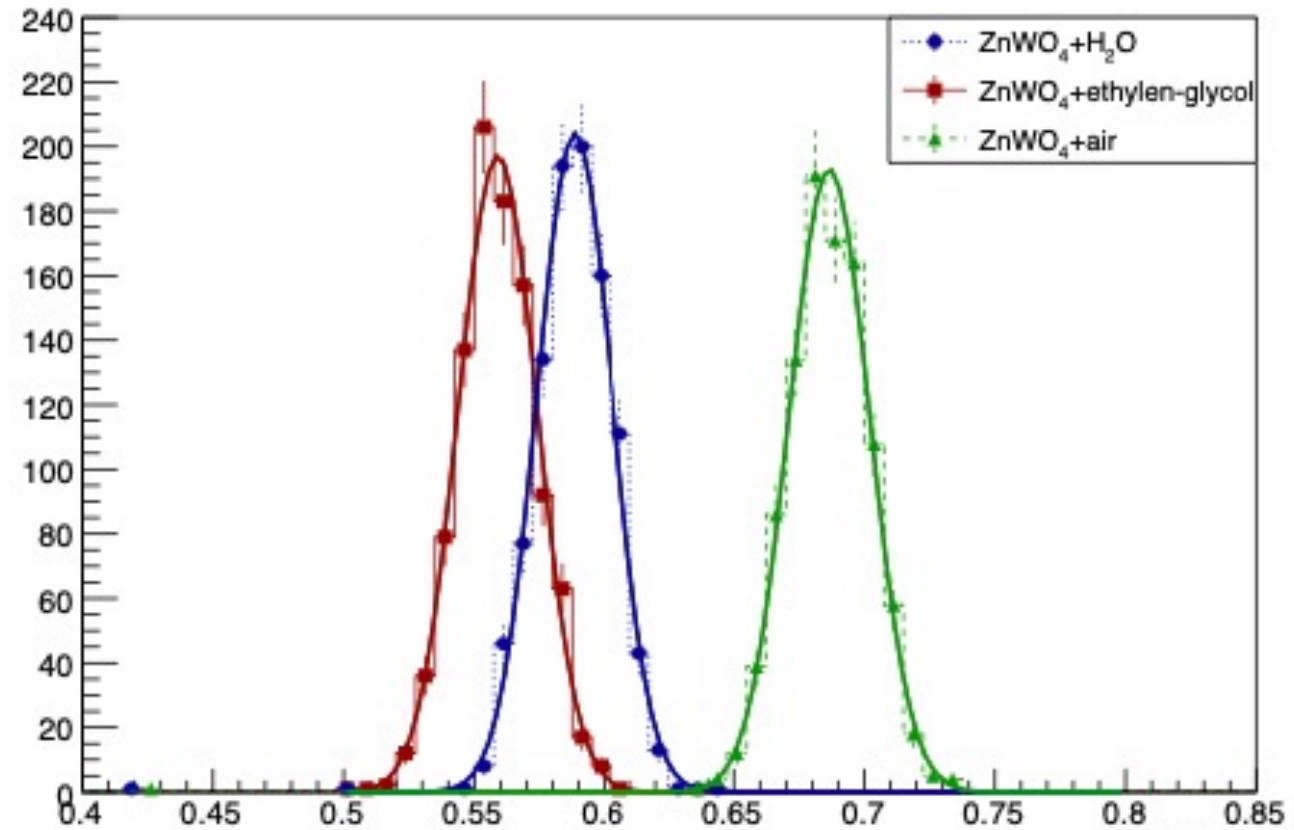
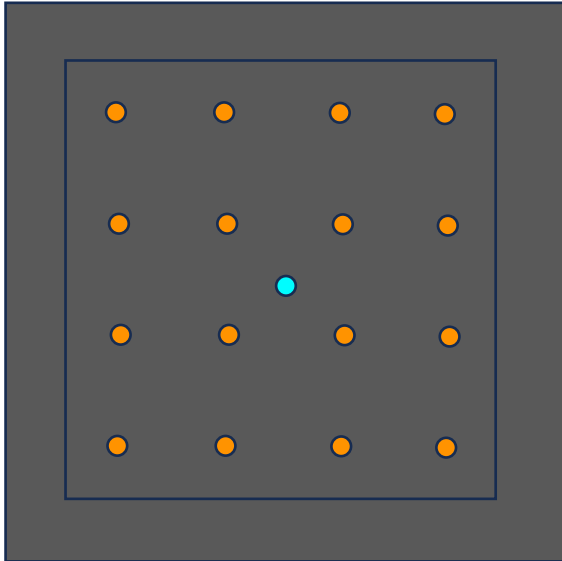
$$\frac{\sigma}{E} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus \frac{b}{E} \oplus c$$

Cosmic rays test bench



Small ($2 \times 2 \times 5.5 \text{ cm}^3$) prototype

~ 1 week to record 500 events
Energy deposit ~ 40 MeV



ZnWO₄

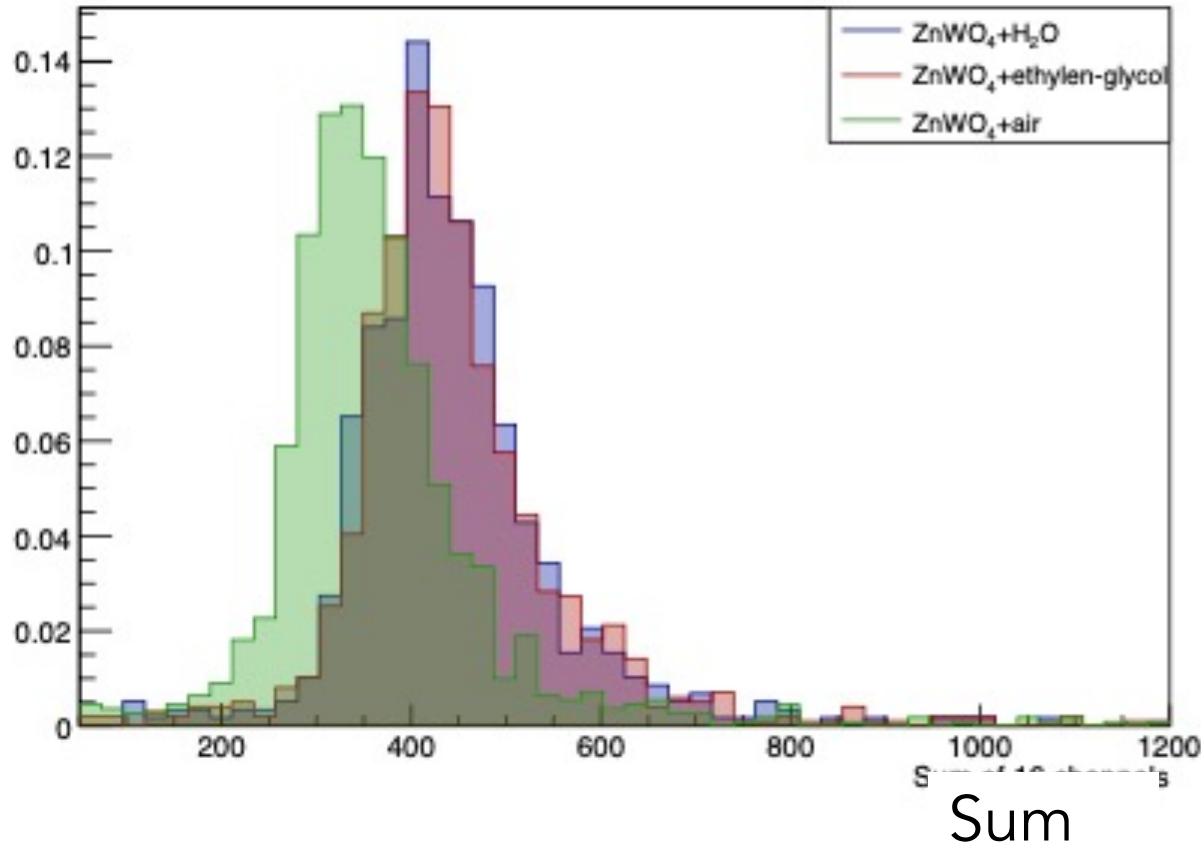
ZnWO₄ +
H₂O

ZnWO₄ +
EGL

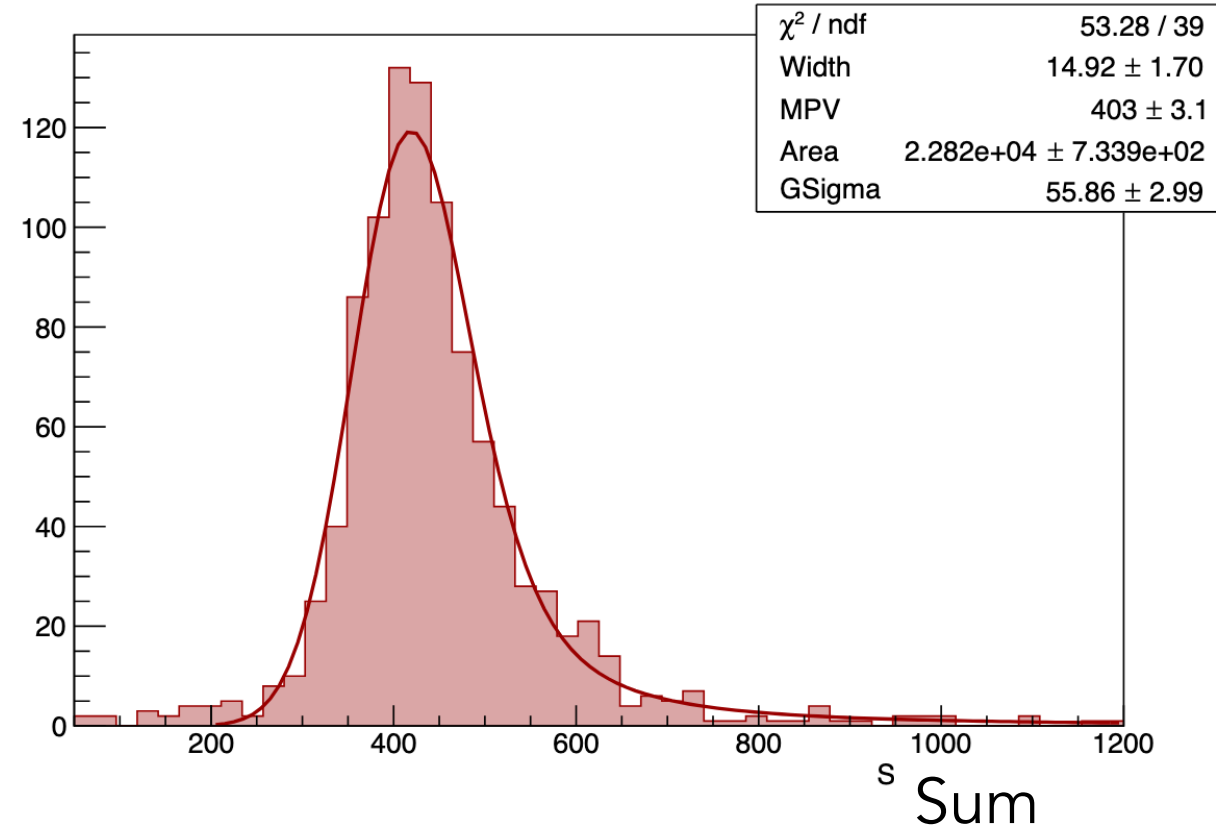
Light is confined

$$\text{Centrality} = \frac{4 \text{ central channels}}{\text{Sum}}$$

With cosmic muons:



Landau fit



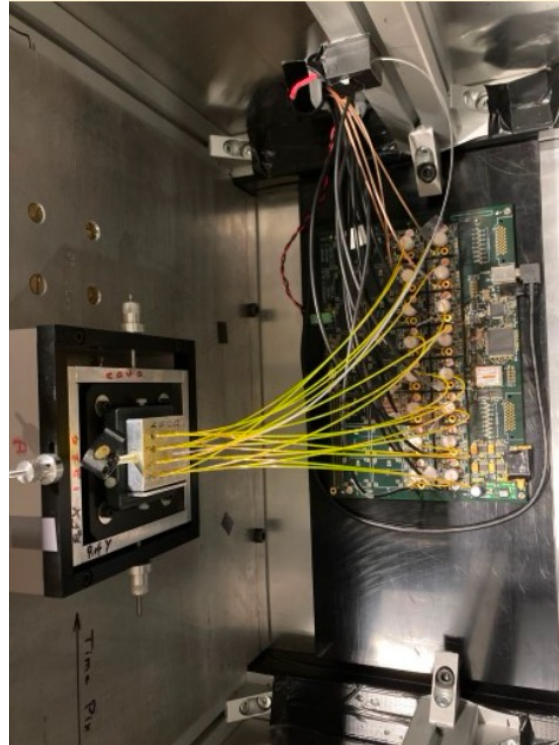
$\Rightarrow \sim 10\,000$ photo-electrons/GeV

\Rightarrow opens the road to a statistical fluctuation of $\frac{\sim 2\%}{\sqrt{E}}$ due to photon statistics

Term smaller than usual sampling calorimeter because of small grains and high density of scintillator

First test beam results

[arxiv:2512.03811](https://arxiv.org/abs/2512.03811) (submitted to JINST)



Main objective: investigate the uniformity response (constant term in the energy resolution)

Which data ?

2 days of data-taking (in the shadow of LHCb PicoCal test in June 2024):

- ~ 2 millions of muons events
- ~ 48 millions of pions events (small prototype: only 20% of pions are interacting)

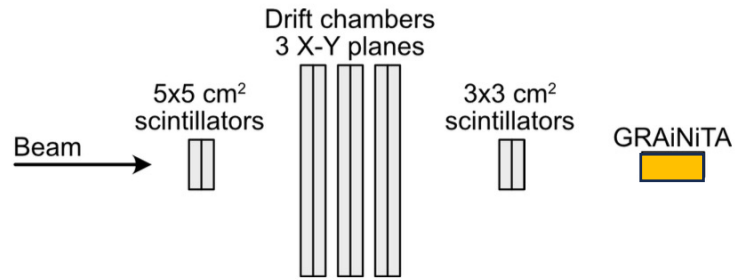
Energy ~ few 10 GeV

2 data-taking periods:

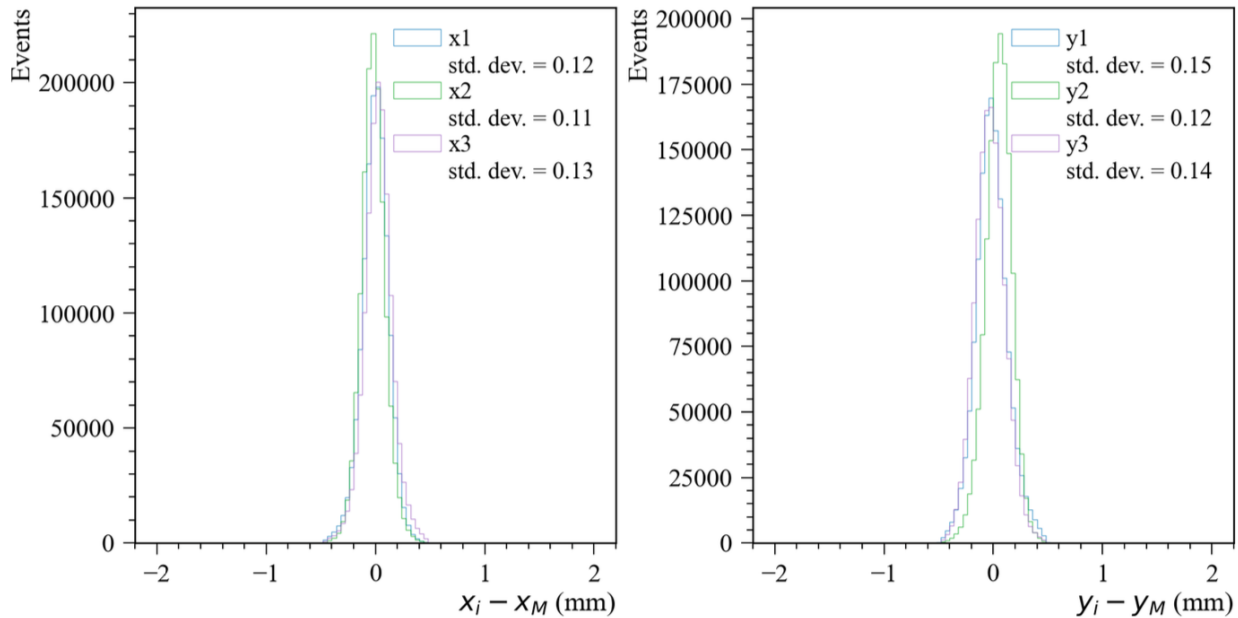
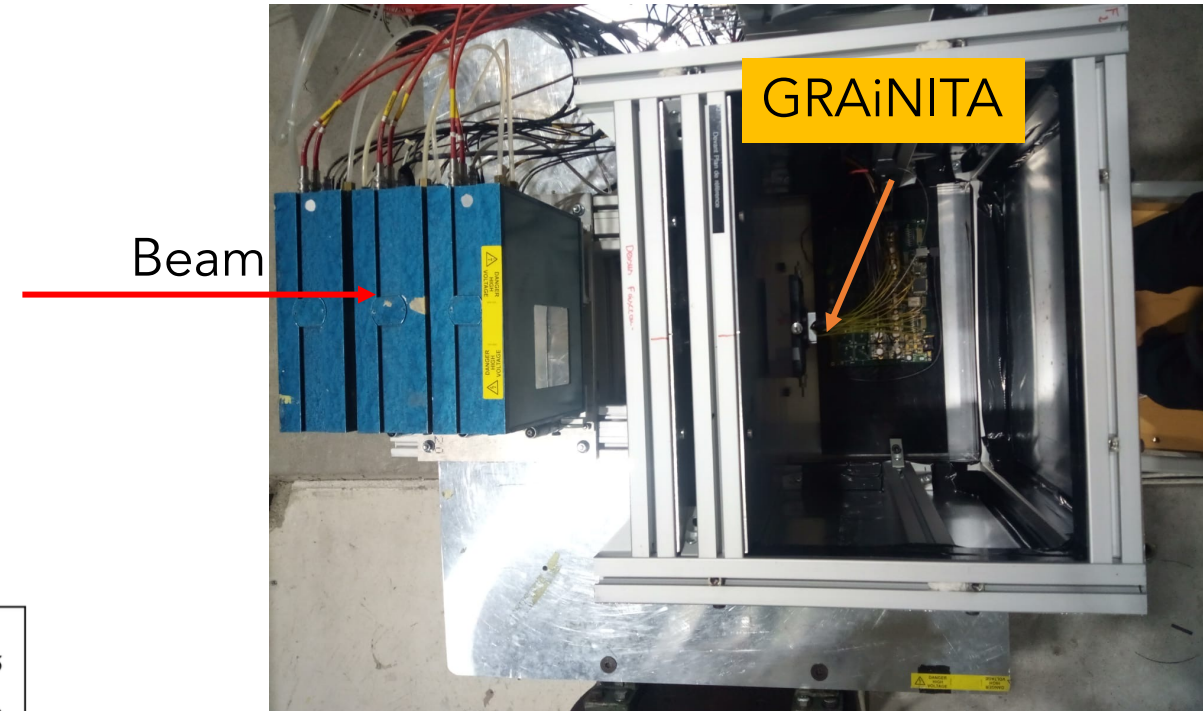
- ZnWO_4 grains in water
- ZnWO_4 grains in water-based sodium polytungstate solution (*Fastfloat*)

(refractive index = 1.5,
density = 2.85 g.cm^{-3})

Set-up



GRAiNITA read-out triggered by the drift chamber + scintillators



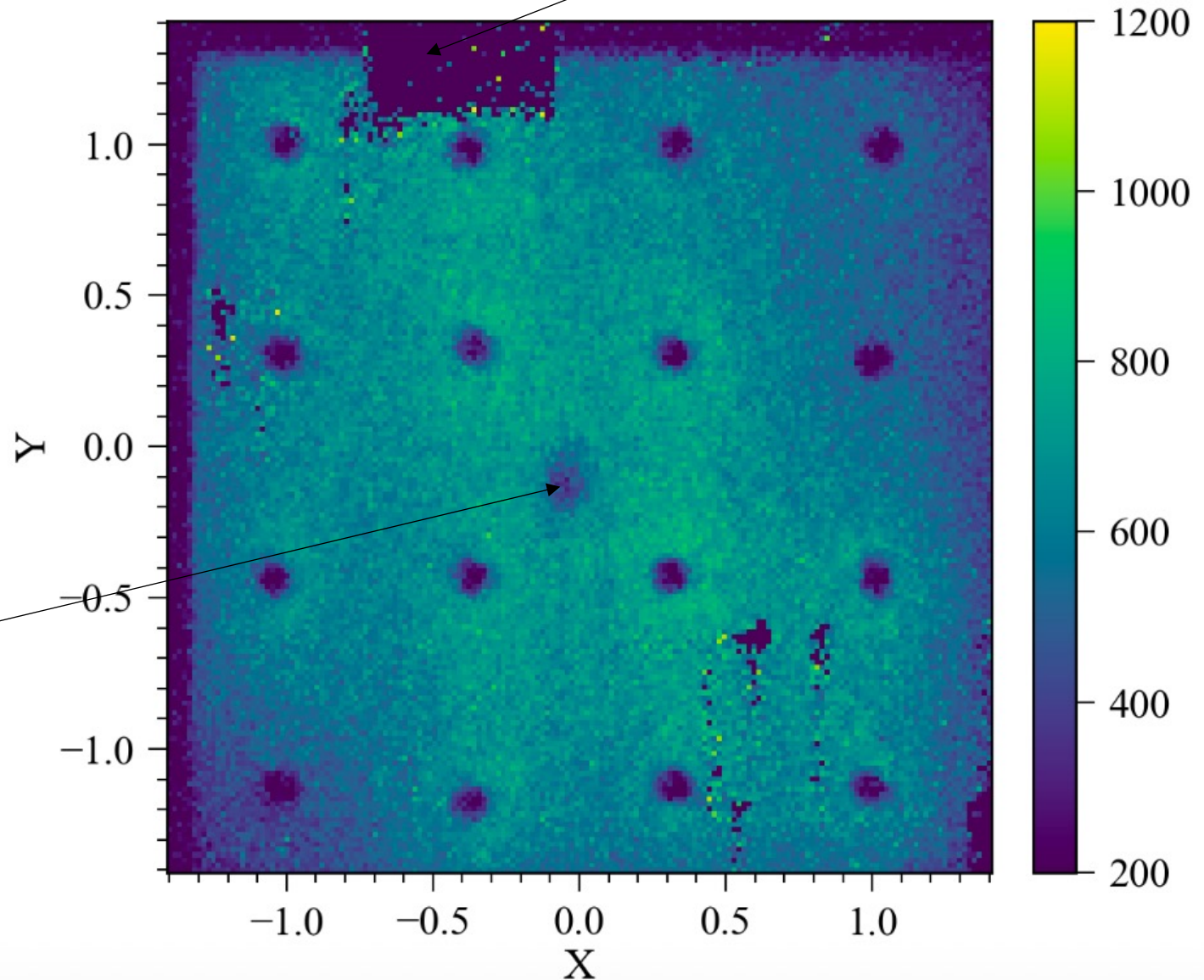
Resolution on the track position $\sim 170 \mu\text{m}$

A very first look in $170 \times 170 \mu\text{m}^2$ bins

DWC not fully functional

for muon tracks in each bin:
mean value of N_{PHE} from the sum
of the 16 WLS fibres

Clear fibre is bent

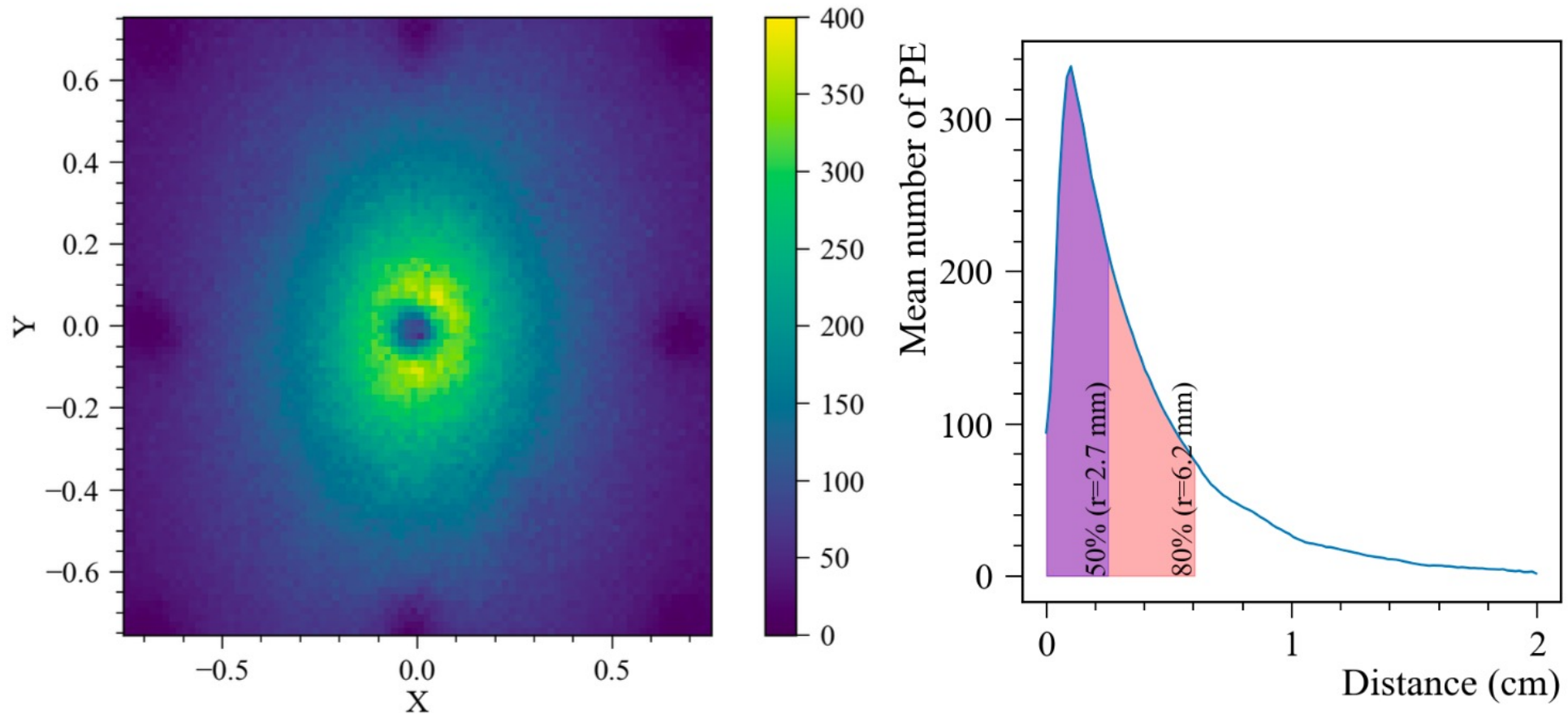


Light confinement

confirmed

Using muons and the 4 more central fibres

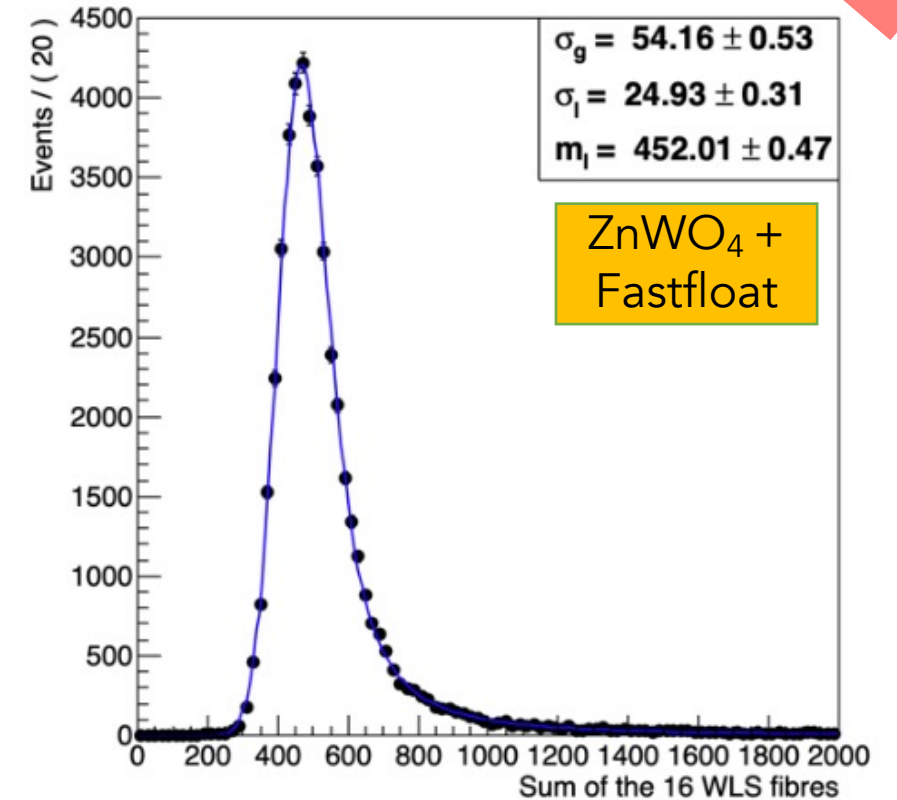
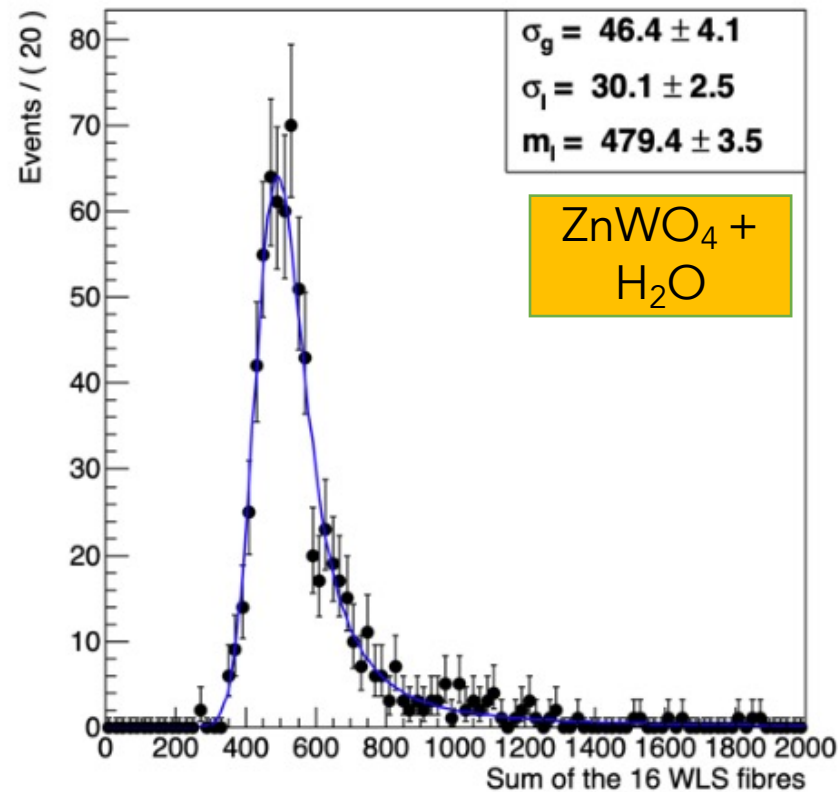
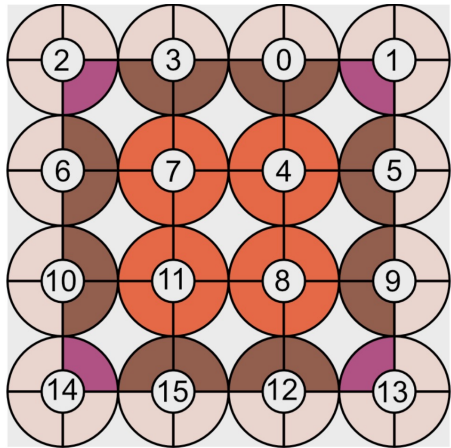
Signal on a given fibre as a function of the position of the track



Stochastic term

confirmed

Use muon tracks close to the centre (orange zone)

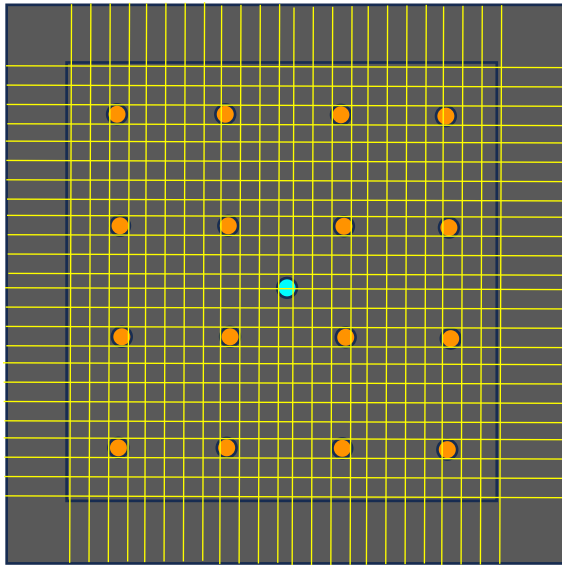


Test of the uniformity

Pave the prototype surface by bins of 1 mm^2
Measure the sum of the 16 WLS signals for each bin
Fit the integral to extract the most probable value



©Britannica Dictionnary



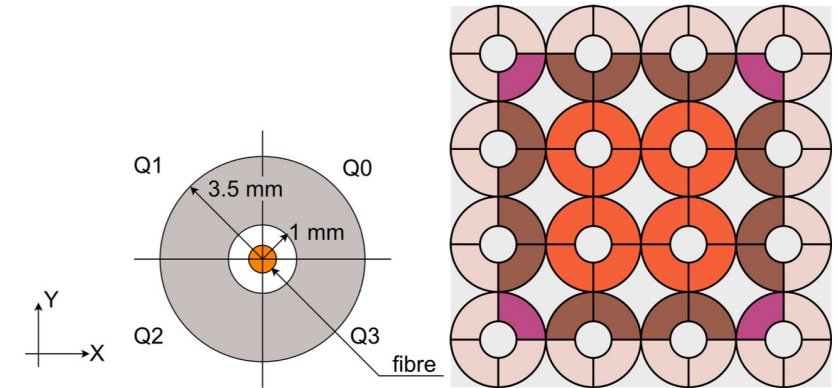
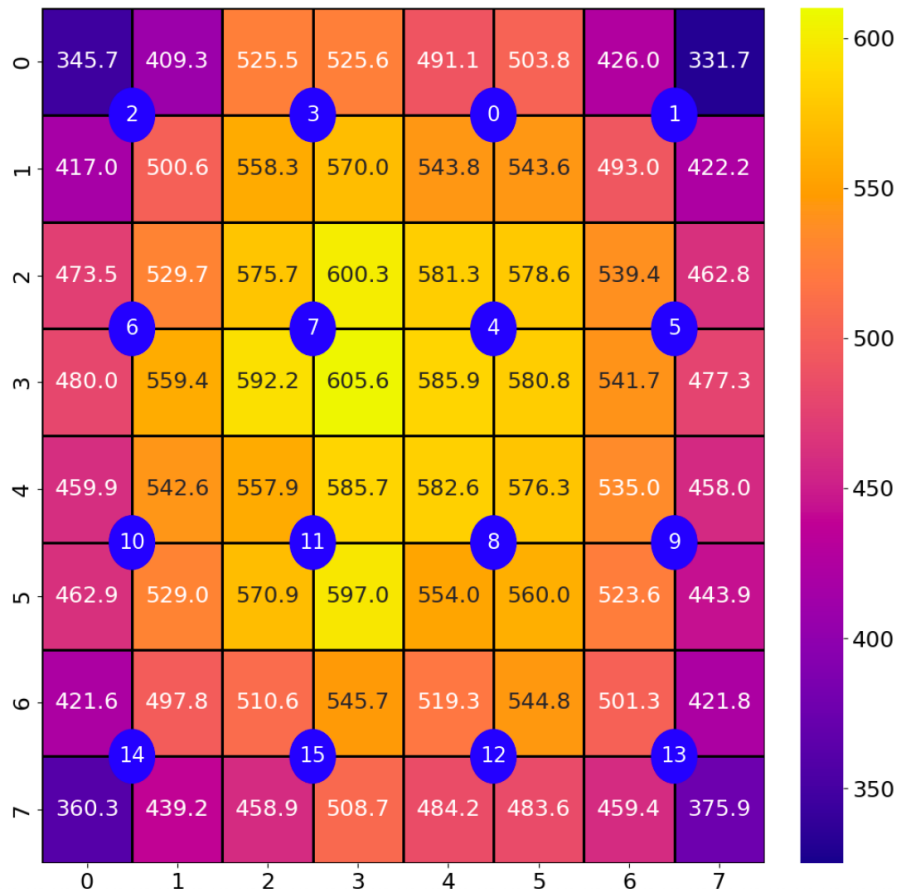
Challenges:

- very large data samples required
- with such a small prototype, the handling of the border effects is intricate to mitigate.
- data-taking issues (liquid leakages + electronics configuration problems etc...)

Data processing for non-uniformity assessment

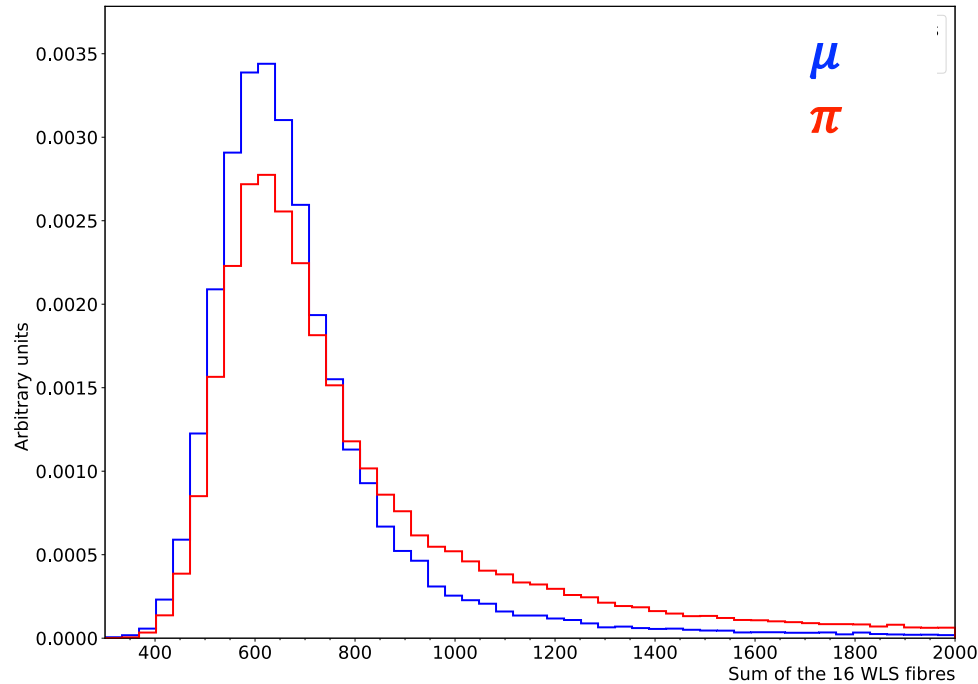
Prototype plugged and un-plugged many times during the beam test period
→ need for homogenised responses

Muon hit map after the homogenisation:



- Fiducial cuts to be applied despite the VM2000 on the walls.
- Pion runs to be used (larger stat)

Pion fitting model



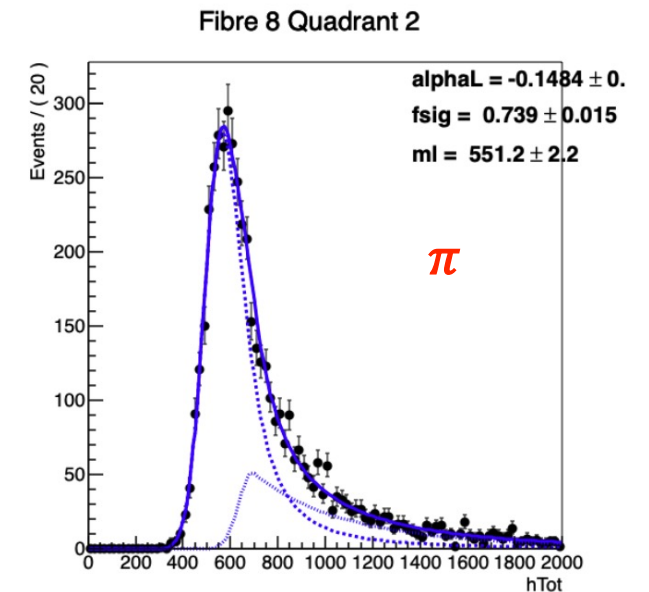
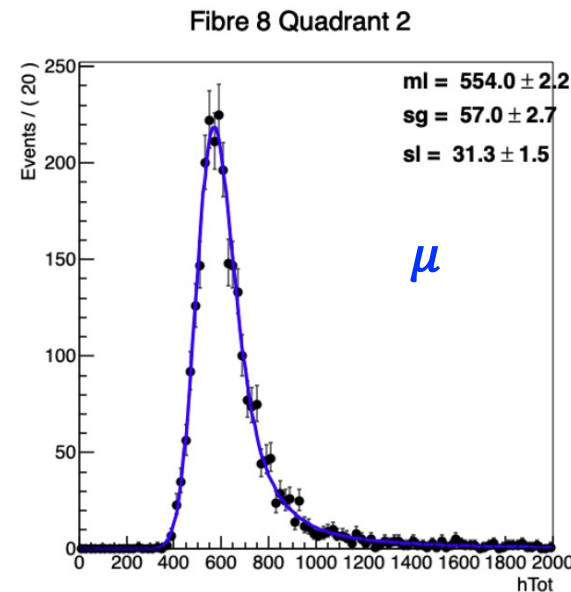
Muon signal : Landau \otimes Gauss ($M(s)$)

Pion Signal $P(s) = f_{\text{sig}} M(s) + (1 - f_{\text{sig}}) \text{CB}(s)$

$$\sigma_{\text{CB}} = \sigma_G$$

$$n_L = 6$$

$$x_{0\text{CB}} = 8/9 \sqrt{2} m_L$$

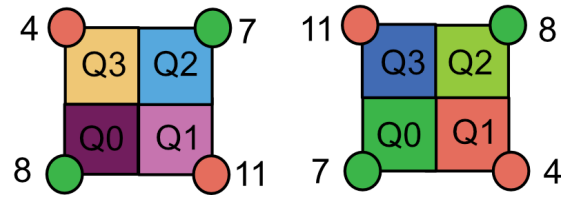
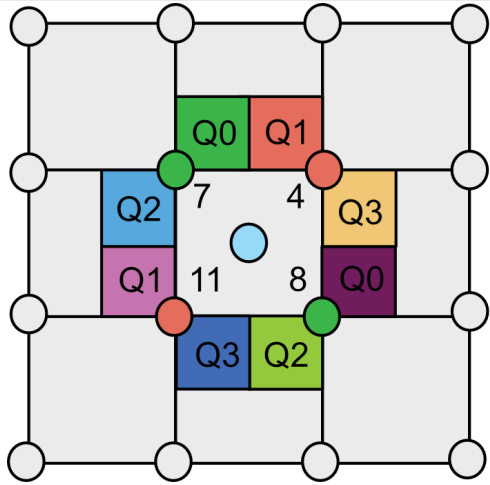


Fit all fibres separately and extract all nuisance parameters
 Fix to the mean value of the nuisances parameters
 → one free parameter : the Landau mean

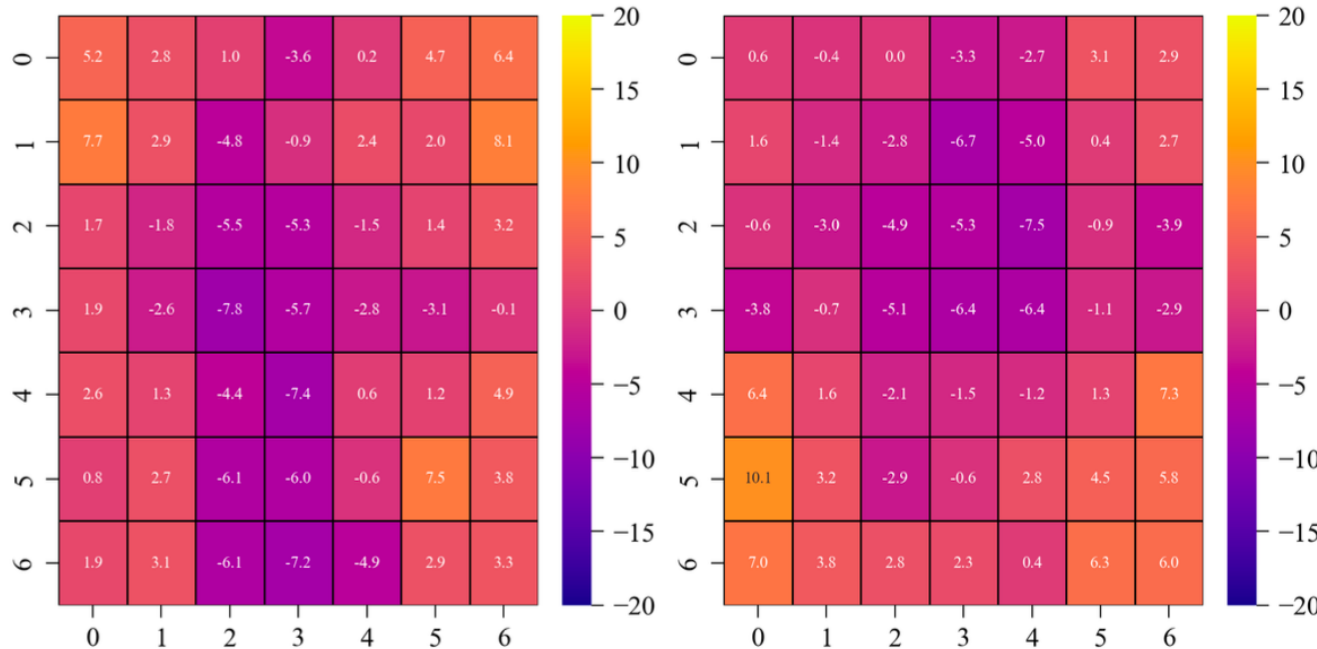
σ_l	σ_g	f_{sig}	α_L
19.7	49.6	0.736	-0.126

Method tested one and applied to the 15 others!

Avoiding the walls and the clear fibre

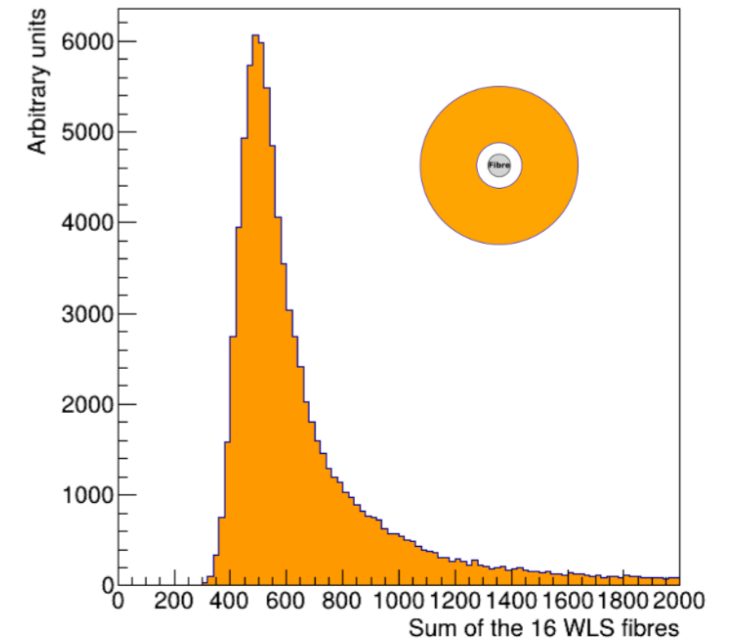
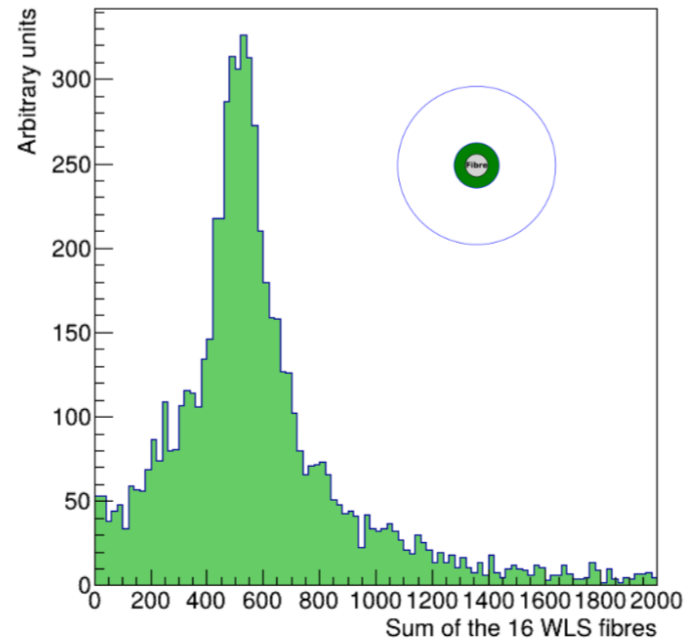
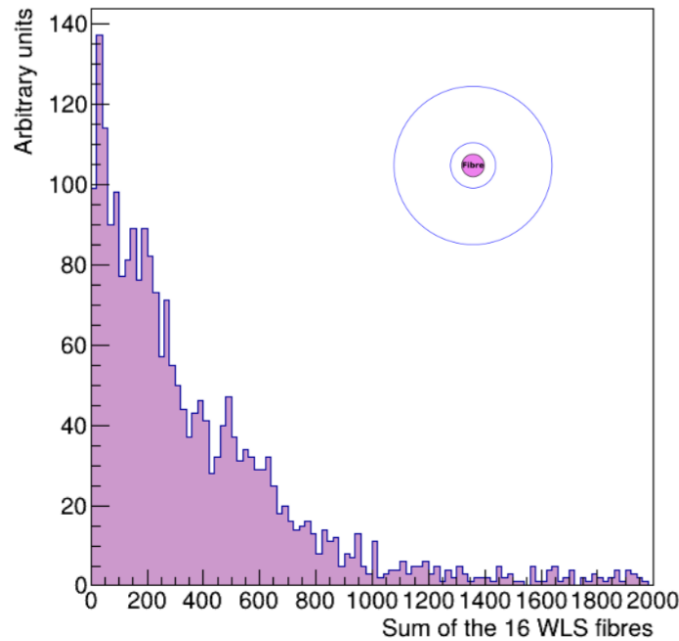


Pions hit map (1 mm²) on the virtual units fractional values (%)



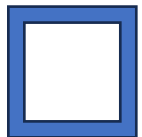
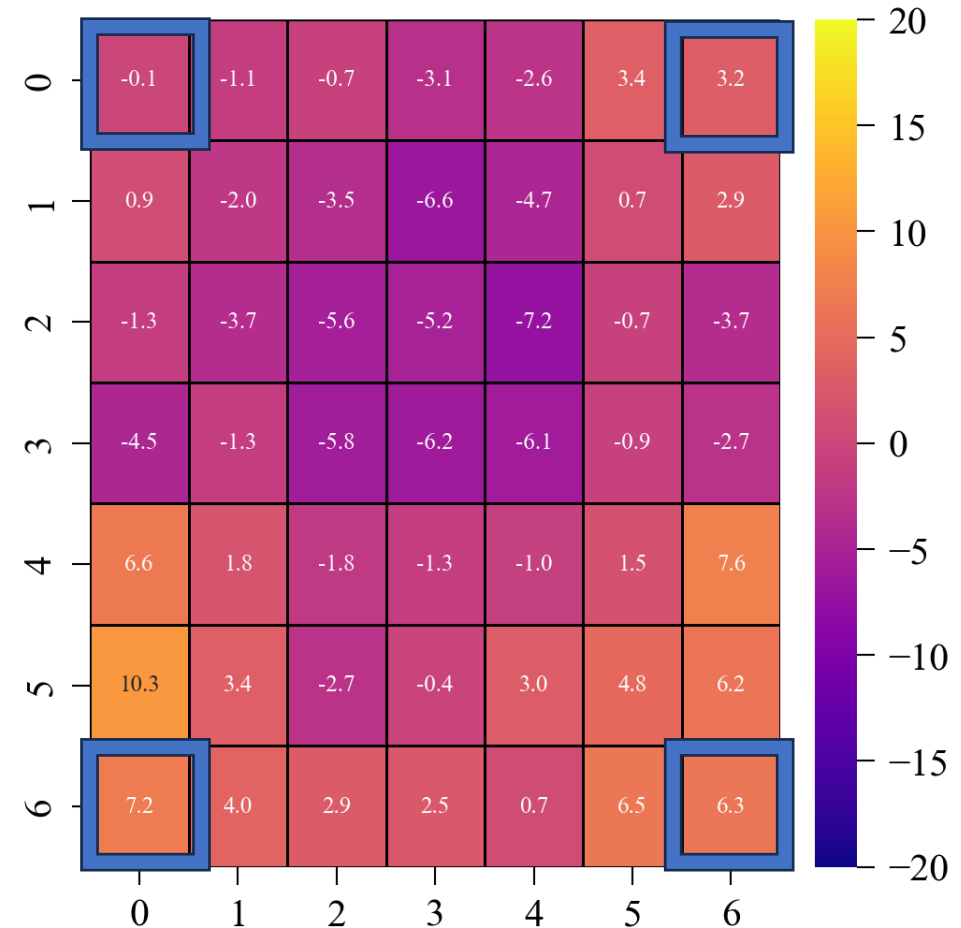
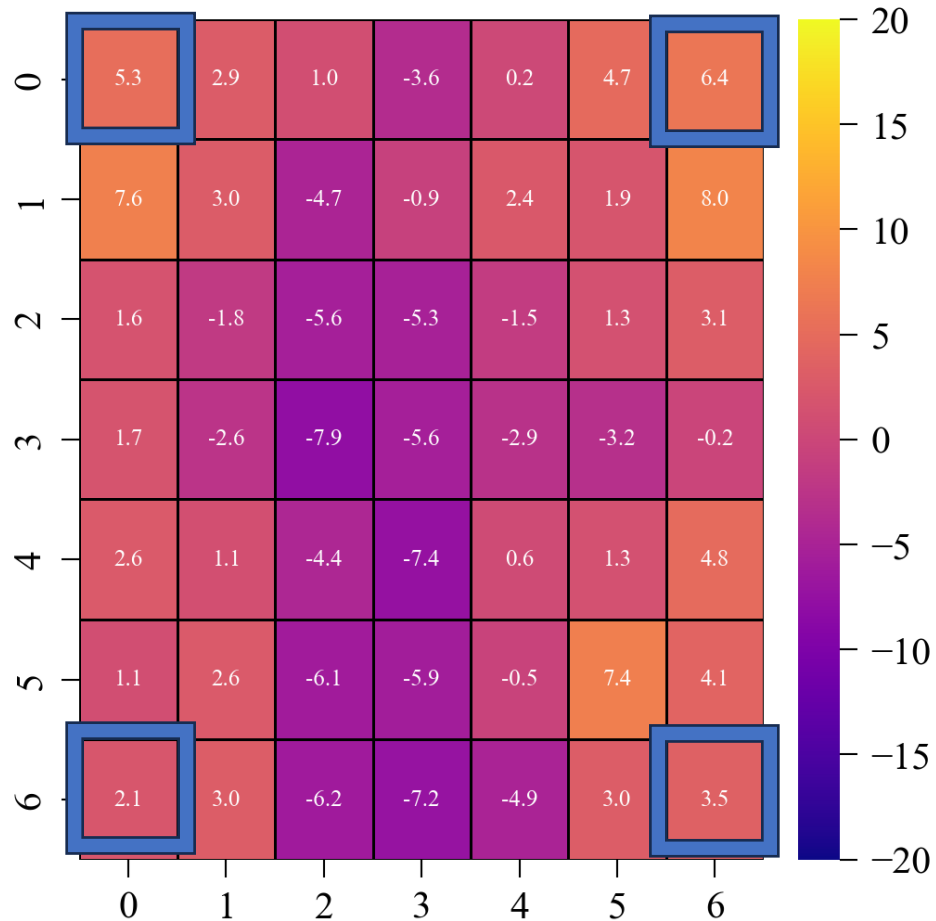
Rms variation of signal over different positions less than 10%

As expected signal varies a lot if the track hits the fibre



In the simulation when a track hits a fibre, no scintillation light is emitted

Hitmaps for the 2 virtual units (in %)

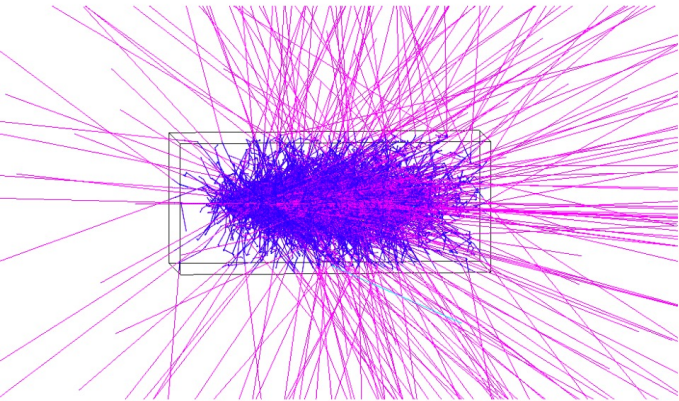


Bin where there is a fibre. Mean replaced by average of adjacent bins.
In the simulation when a track hits a fibre, no scintillation light is emitted

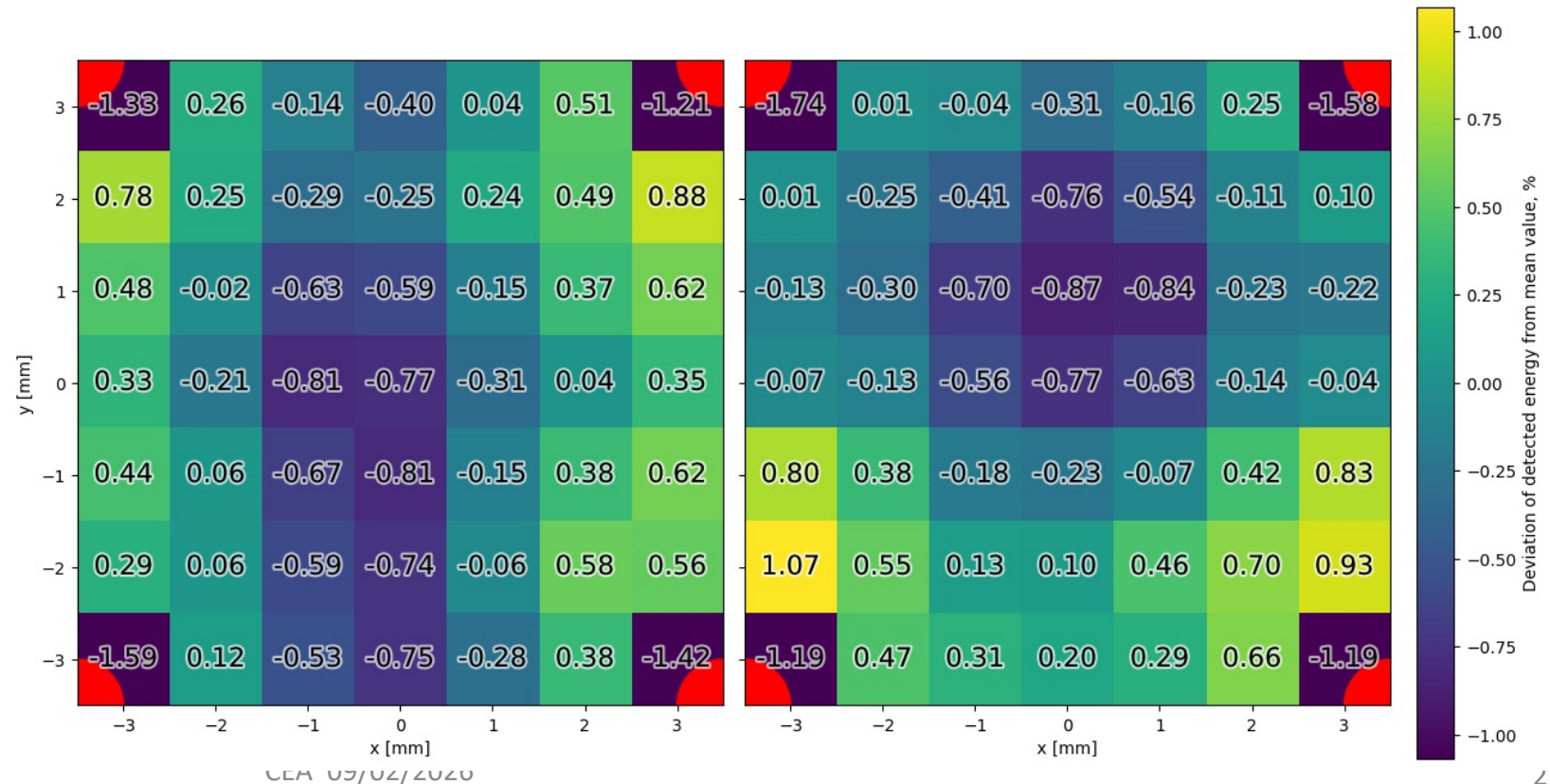
Impact on the constant term

Geant4 simulation of a full-size prototype (17 x 17 x 40 cm³) with a mixture of ZnWO₄ (no grains) and sodium polytungstate

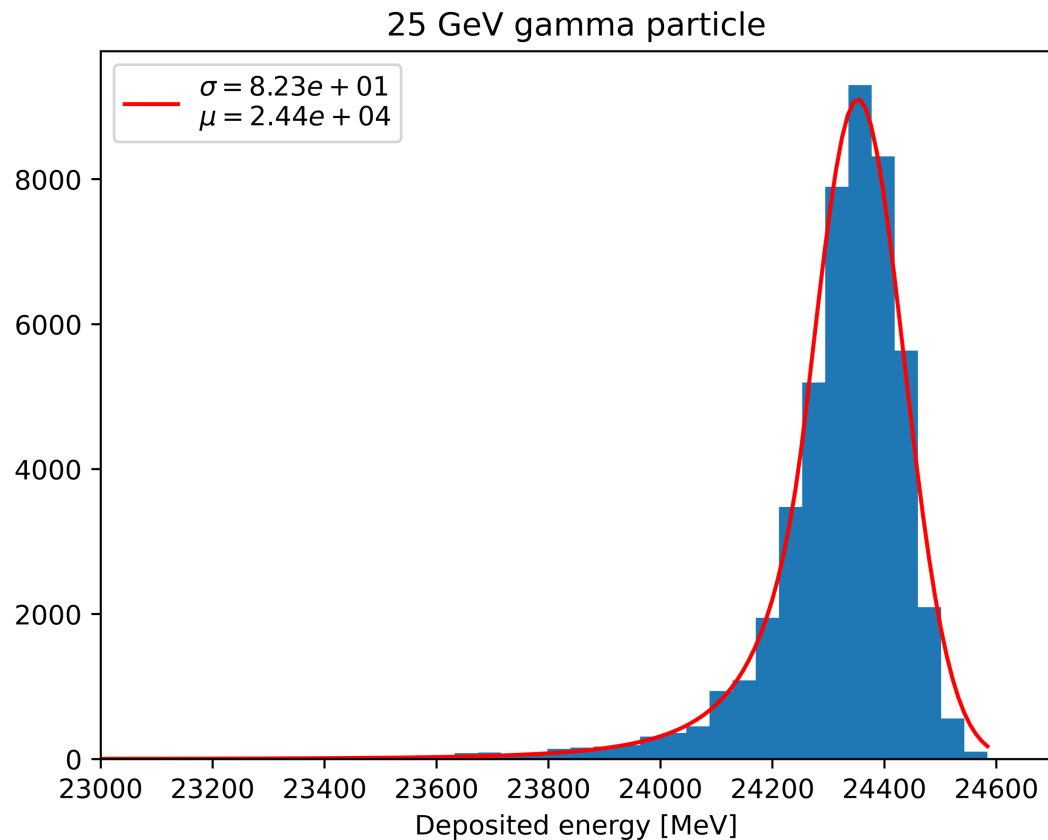
25 GeV γ



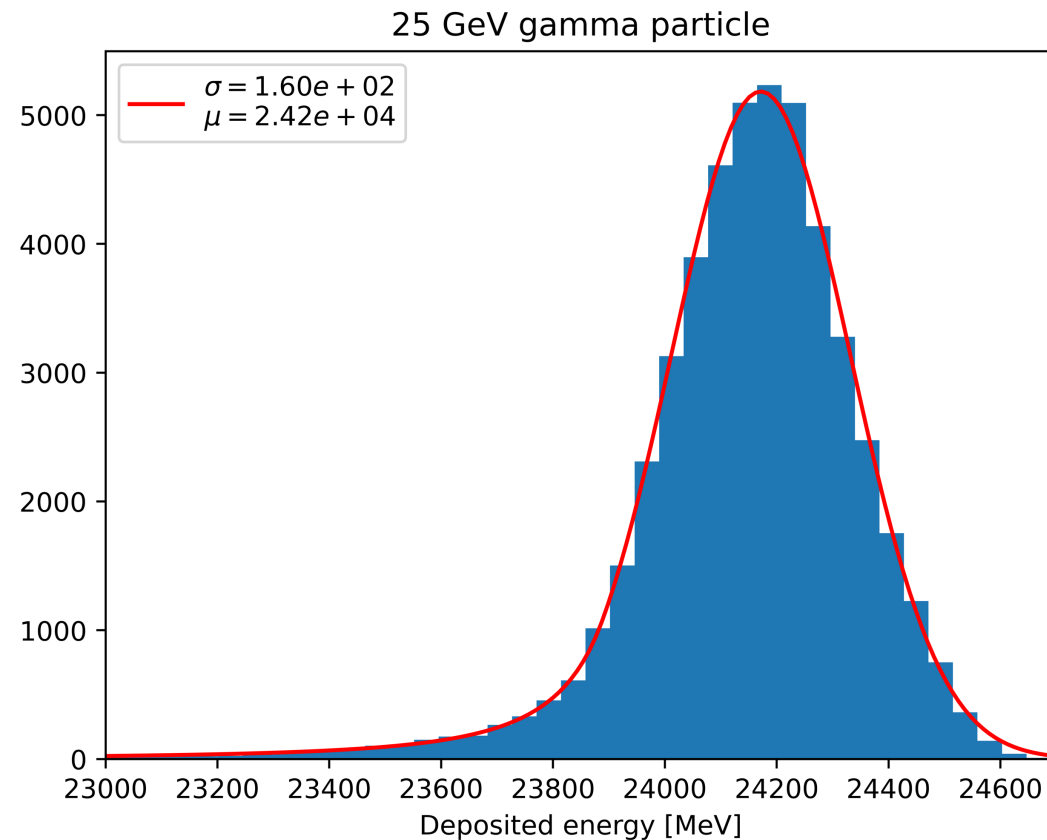
Deviation of the detected energy from mean value (%)



No uniformity simulated



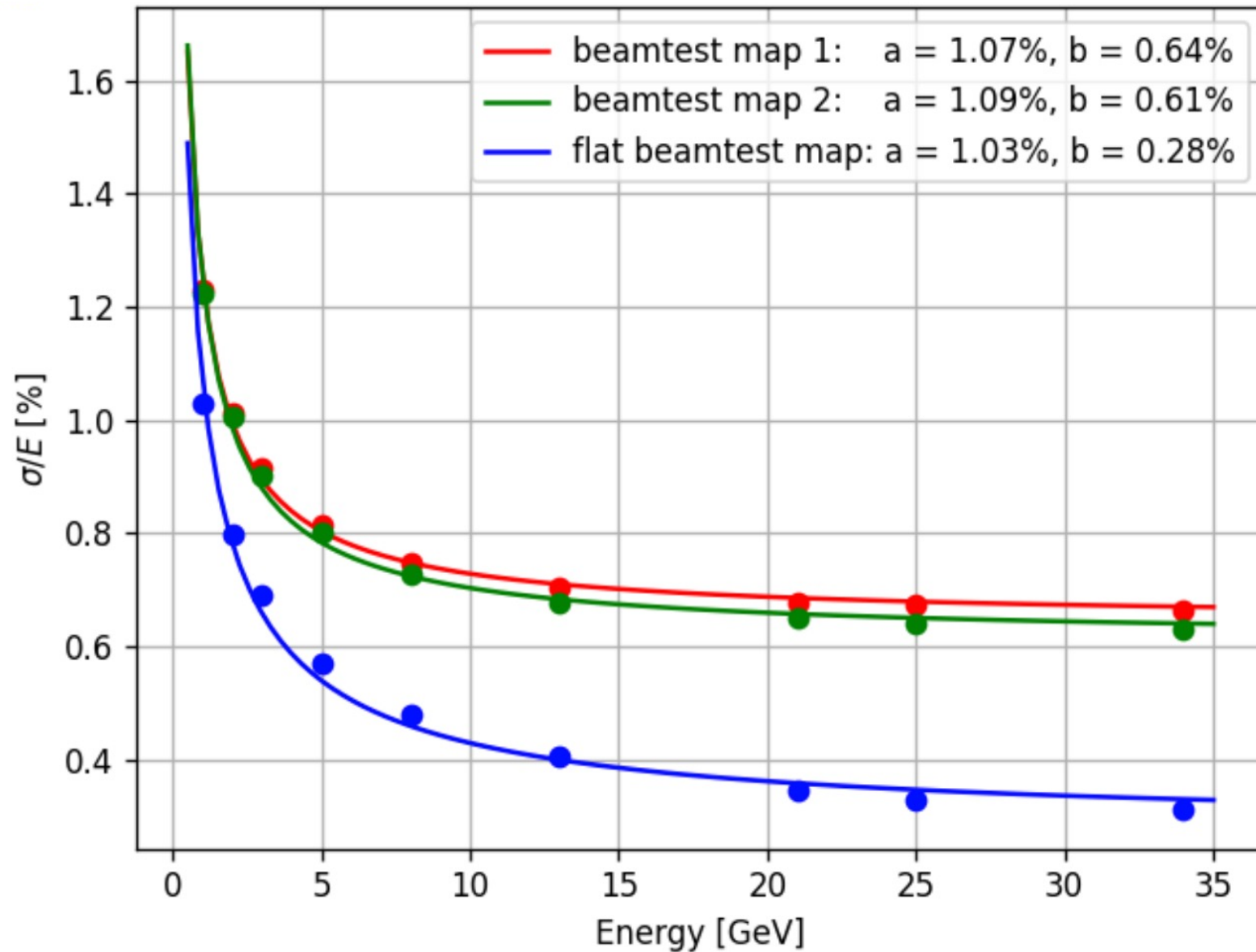
With map from the test beam



Constant term $\sim 0.7\%$ (including the systematics from the pion model)

Energy resolution

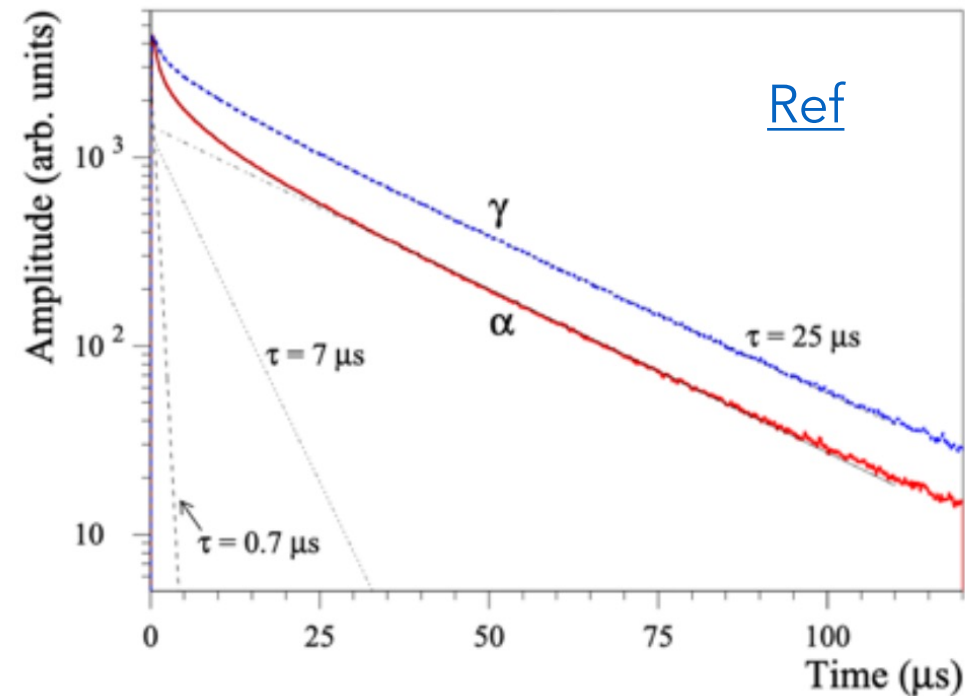
GRAiNITA internal



A word about pulse shape discrimination

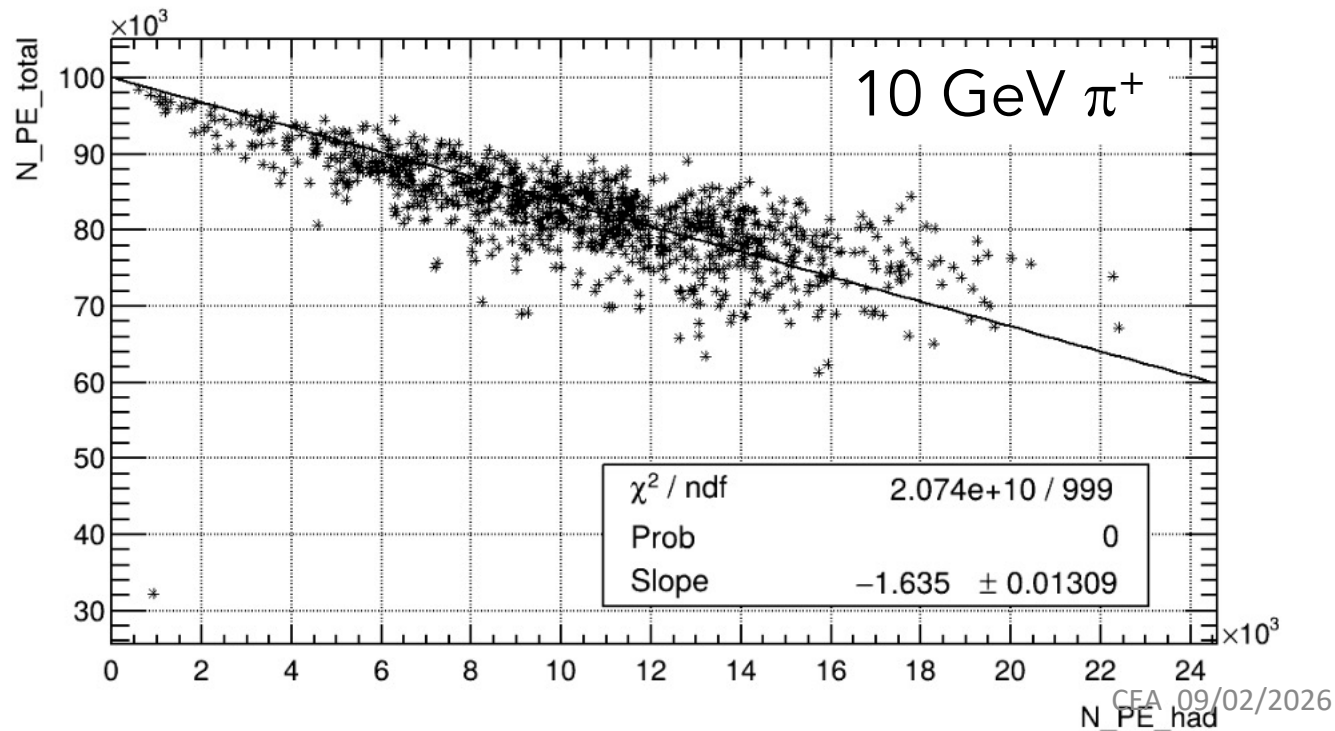
ZnWO₄: clear difference between γ and α ()

Type of irradiation	Decay constants, μs		
	τ_1 (A_1)	τ_2 (A_2)	τ_3 (A_3)
γ ray	0.7 (2%)	7.5 (9%)	25.9 (89%)
α particles	0.7 (4%)	5.6 (16%)	24.8 (80%)



Can it be used to separate electromagnetic and hadronic components in a hadron shower ? (as Cerenkov vs scintillation do).

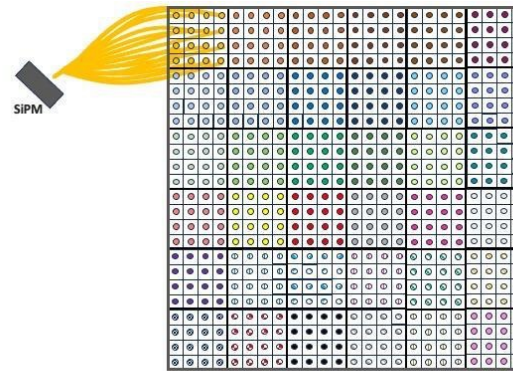
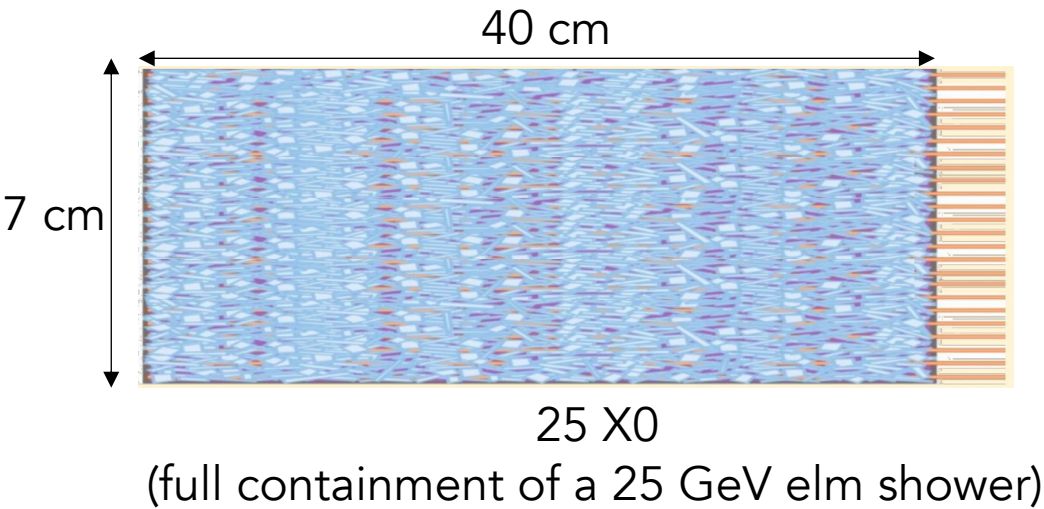
- Data taken with protons at the ALTO accelerator (energy from 10 to 20 MeV)
- 4 sets of lifetime (electrons, low E protons, 'high' E proton, α), inputs to G4 optical model
- Demonstrated the ability to extract the electromagnetic fraction of the shower
- → possibility to correct and thus improvement in the hadronic energy resolution



WIP

Towards a scale-one calorimeter module

Got a grant to build a full-size module demonstrator to assess all the components of the resolution

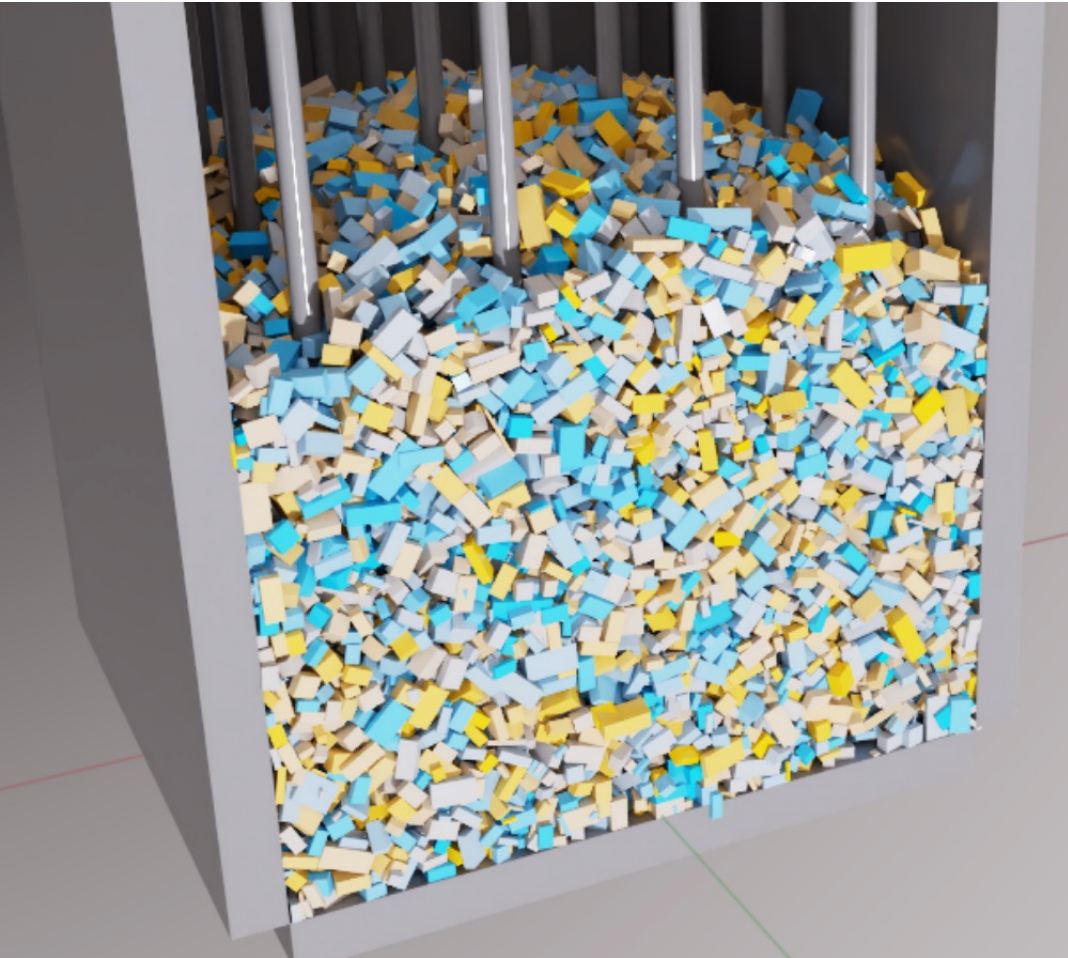


576 WLS fibres separated by 7mm
(as in the small prototype) grouped
in 16 fibres bundle
coupled to 36 large-area SiPMs

Goal is to have a prototype built in 2028
→ test with cosmics and beams

Stay tuned

Quantify with a realistic simulation the effect of the grains.



GRAiNITA is young !

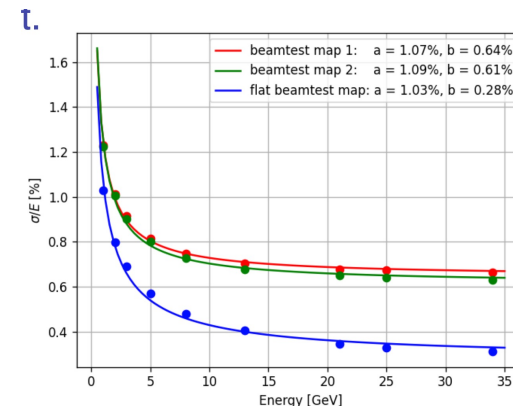
Feb 2020, just before COVID



- **End of 2019, beg of 2020:** first G4 simulations
- **Spring 2021:** First test bench measurements with salt & comparison with G4 simulations
- **2022:**
 - very first measurements with ZnWO_4 , WLS identification
 - start a collaboration with LPC-Clermont (Pulse Shape Discrimination , cosmic test bench)
 - Funding from IN2P3 for a small prototype
- **2023:** building the 16-channels prototype & cosmics rays test
- **2024:** test of the 16-channels prototype at CERN on μ/π test beam
- **2025:** ANR grant to build a scale-one module
- **2026:** start of the collaboration with CERN for the design of a calorimeter for FCCee

Conclusion and future

- Analysis of the test beam data:
 - confirms N_{PHE} value
 - constant term from non-uniformity $\sim 0.7\%$ (limitations due to the prototype size)



- Other (on-going) studies and tests:
 - heavy liquid
 - other crystals (CaWO_4 , Ca/PbWO_4 , ...)
 - Mirror at the ends of the fibres

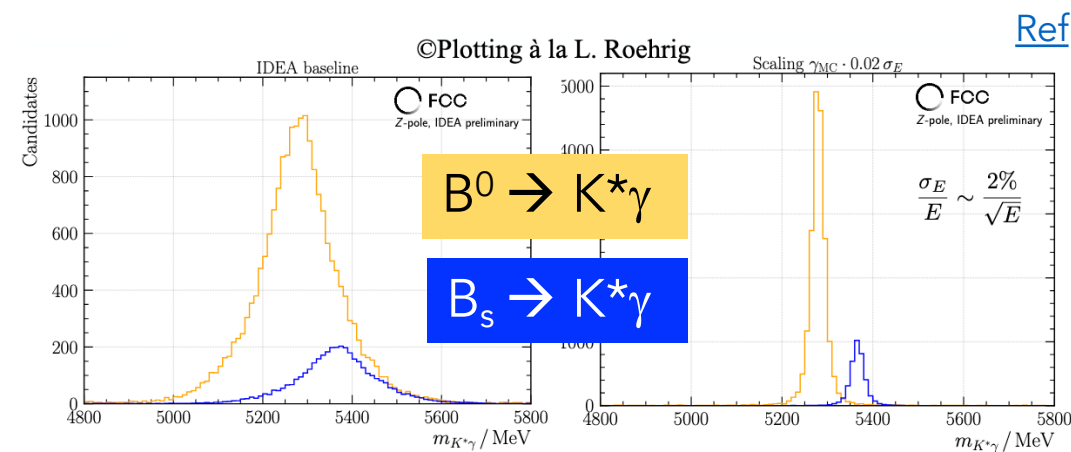
$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} \sim \frac{12\%}{\sqrt{E}}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} \sim \frac{2\%}{\sqrt{E}}$$

- Pulse Shape Discrimination:
 - data with electrons and p (at ALTO@IJCLab : 12 MeV proton beam) recorded
 - Inputs to Geant4 has started

- Collaboration with CERN for the design of a calorimeter for FCCee

CEA 09/02/2026



Backup slides

ZnWO₄ or CaWO₄ ?

We also have an alternative candidate: CaWO₄

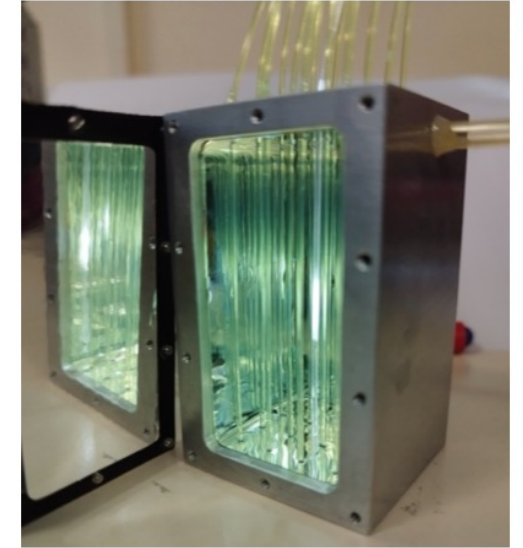
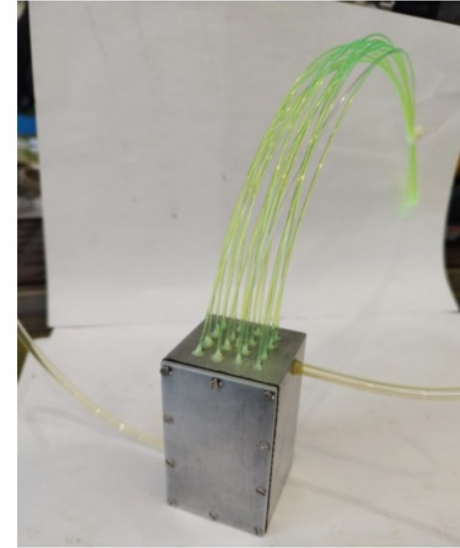
Same production technique (flux method)

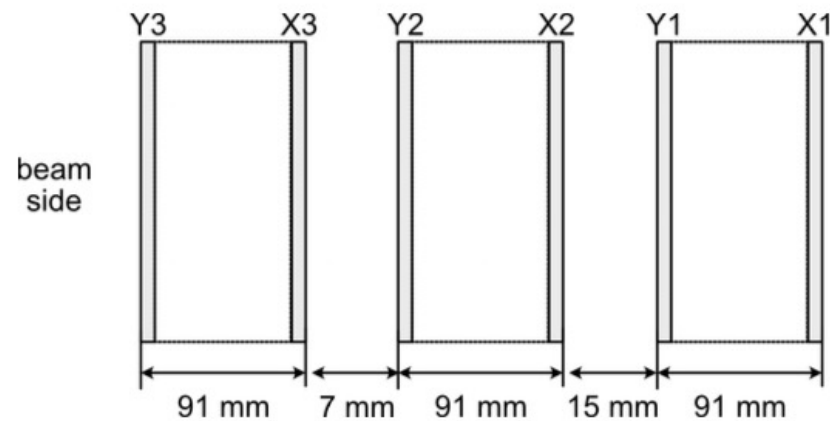
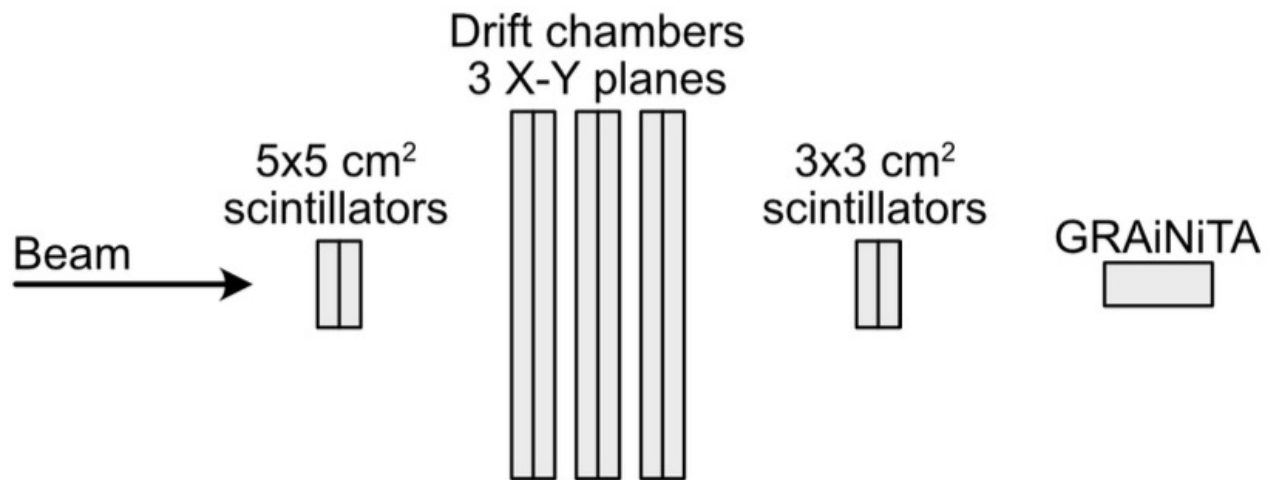
Faster signal : 12.5 μ s instead of 25 μ s

Expect a good light yield, shifted to green \rightarrow use Y11

Measured number of photo-electrons $\sim 1.7 \times$ ZnWO₄
using cosmics ...

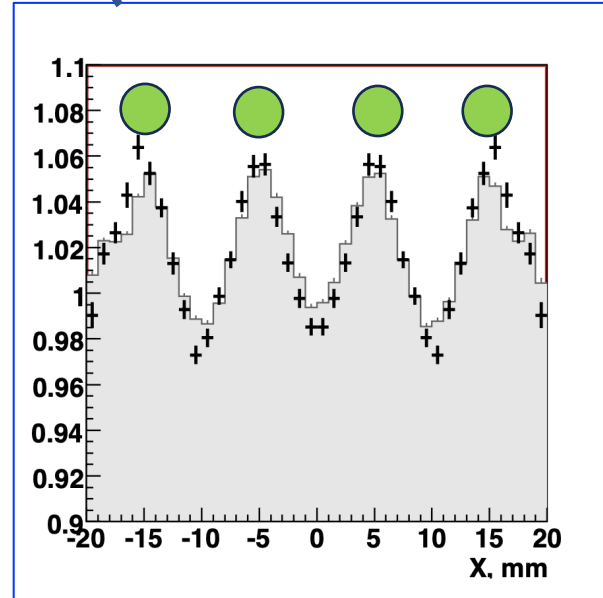
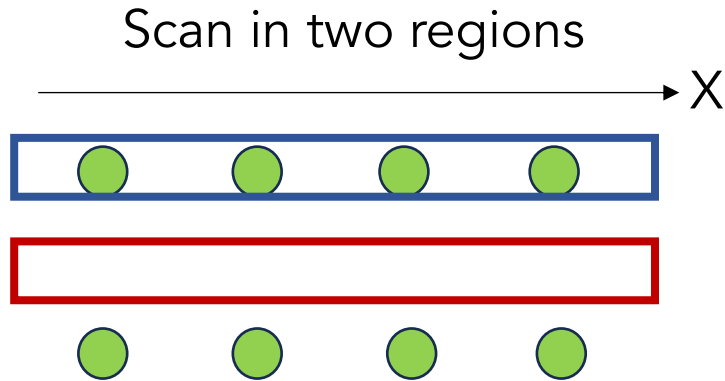
...but density significantly lower (6.1 vs 7.6)



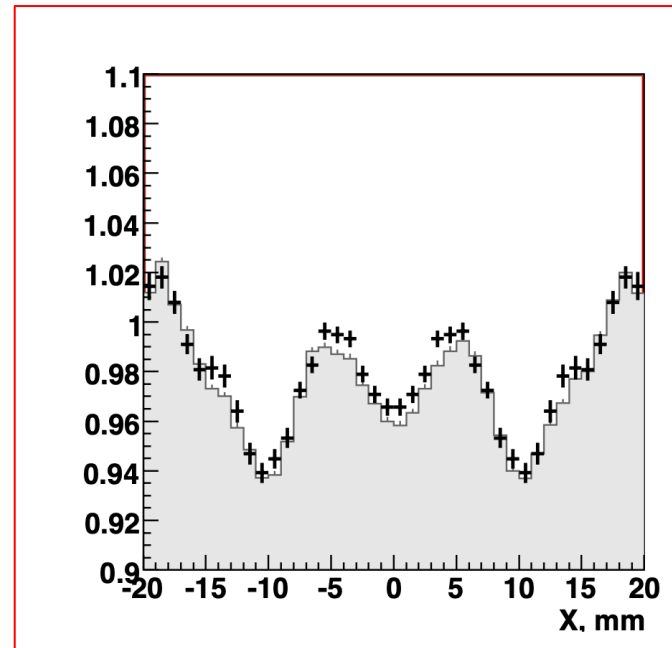


Principle of the method (LHCb calorimeter)

[Beam Test Results of the LHCb Electromagnetic Calorimeter](#)



Grey = simulation



~0.8% constant term for LHCb calorimeter